

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIII.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 14th April, 1901, at 1, Nanking Road, Shanghai, the wife of PAUL E. ZURN, of a daughter.

On the 17th April, 1901, at Shanghai, the wife of G. CROIL-SMITH, of the China Inland Mission, of a daughter.

At Elliot Crescent, Robinson Road, Hongkong, on 19th April, the wife of CARL ROGGE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At St. Mark's, Seremban, on the 9th April, by the Rev. F. H. Haines, Colonial Chaplain, Malacca, H. MONTAGUE HATCHELL, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Federated Malay States Civil Service, son of Colonel HATCHELL, of Tunbridge Wells, to MARGARET, fourth daughter of the late H. C. PHILPOTT, Esq., of Upton-on-Severn, Worcester-shire.

On the 16th April, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, JOHN J. BATCHELOR to LAURESTINA GURNEY, of Surbiton, England.

DEATHS.

On the 12th April, 1901, at Shanghai, HENRY EDWIN HALL, aged 60 years.

At St. John's Lodge, Malacca, on the 12th April, HELEN MARGARET NEUBRONNER, widow of the late Louis NEUBRONNER, aged 73 years.

At 11, Chaoufoong Road, Shanghai, on the 17th April, 1901, FRANK ARTHUR KINGSMILL BOWKER, aged 4 years and 5 months.

In India, on the 18th March, HUGH McPHERSON MITCHELL, only son of the late Lieut. Colonel Sir Charles Bullen Hugh MITCHELL, R.M., L.I., G.C.M.G., recent Governor of the Straits Settlements, aged 37 years.

On the 19th April, 1901, at his residence, 17, Chaoufoong Road, Shanghai, CHARLES CARROLL BRUNNERT, aged 59 years, a native of Beverly, Mass., U.S.A.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 22nd March arrived, per M. M. steamer *Indus*, on the 21st April (30 days); the American mail of the 23rd March arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 24th April (32 days); and the English mail of the 29th March arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, on the 26th April (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Bengal Lancers are to remain here for the present, the order for their despatch north having been cancelled.

The German steamer *Hainan* was totally wrecked on the Taichow Islands on the 18th inst. The passengers and crew have all safely arrived at Ningpo.

In a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* published on the 24th inst. Manila was proclaimed "a port or place at which an infectious or contagious disease prevails."

We hear on good authority that a Chinese syndicate is in course of formation here to develop the trade between Formosa and the Northern Chinese ports and Japan.

In the accounts prepared by the Admiralty under the Naval Works Act, under the heading "Increased Estimates," the Hongkong Dock-yard Extension figures for £700,000.

It is reported from Moukden that the Russians have lent Tseng Chi, the Tartar-General of Fengtien, four hundred thousand taels to enable him to raise a military police force in the province.

We understand that the Italian Admiral is negotiating in Hongkong for the purchase of some small steamers, easily convertible into gunboats, for patrol work at Canton and on the rivers of southern China.

It is stated from Shanghai that, notwithstanding all reports to the contrary, the Court has made arrangements to leave Hsian at once. Its destination is, however, secret. The provincial authorities have been ordered to stop sending supplies.

Aguinaldo has issued a manifesto (the text of which we print on another page) saying that the country declares unmistakably in favour of peace. Hence he unreservedly acknowledges the sovereignty of the United States in the Philippines and advises the insurgents to do likewise. General MacArthur has signalled the event by liberating one thousand Filipino prisoners of war.

It is reported in native circles up north that Li Hung-chang made an important purchase recently. All the machinery in the Southern Arsenal at Tientsin had been sold by the Allies to Messrs. Collins and Co., Tientsin, for twenty thousand taels. Li bought it back for over thirty thousand taels. He proposes to re-establish the Arsenal. It is not known how this agrees with the designs of the Allies to make Tientsin an international settlement.

The *Echo de Chine* says the laying of the Amoy cable continues regularly, as was to be foreseen. "We are even a little astonished," the *Echo de Chine* continues, "at the fuss which has been made about the event, the preliminary arrangements of which date back two years."

A Shanghai telegram to Japan says that the contemplated transfer to the German flag of the China Merchants shipping company, the price for which was to be deducted out of the indemnity due to Germany, has been abandoned, owing to a strong protest from the Chinese Government.

It was reported amongst the local mandarins at Shanghai last Friday that Prince Ch'un, Special Ambassador to Germany, may probably arrive there from the North in about a month or five weeks from hence, en route to Europe. Prince Ch'un will have the distinction of being the first Prince of the Manchu dynasty who has ever visited Shanghai.

The Chungking correspondent of *Echo de Chine* writes that the deliverance of Father Musnot (whose capture by brigands on the border of Tibet we have already reported) is due to the pressure put on the Viceroy of Szechuan by M. Bons d'Anty. H. E. Kwei acted loyally and energetically, but he was badly seconded. Monseigneur Girardeau fortunately let M. Bons d'Anty know the extent of the danger, and the Viceroy acted vigorously, with the result that the bandits were defeated, Father Musnot delivered, and two chiefs of the band decapitated. It is said that M. Bons d'Anty is about to depart, and is to be replaced by M. Haas.

T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of York and Cornwall arrived in Singapore on Sunday morning. They were received by H.E. the Acting Governor, Sir Frank A. Swettenham, K.C.M.G., at Johnston's Pier, and drove through the midst of enthusiastic crowds in the gaily decorated streets to Government House. The troops and the Volunteers lined the route. In the evening Their Royal Highnesses drove through the brilliantly illuminated streets of China-town. On Monday morning thirteen addresses were presented at the Town Hall, where the assemblage was most brilliant. The local Volunteers furnished a guard of honour. In the evening there was a reception at Government House, and a great torchlight procession. Their Royal Highnesses continued their voyage on the *Ophir* on Tuesday, leaving Singapore at 2 p.m.

According to the *N.C. Daily News* Peking correspondent, in the fire at the Winter Palace Count von Waldersee's fireproof house resisted the flames, and he was rescued by the window. It is not to be hastily concluded, our contemporary says, that the burning of Count von Waldersee's quarters in the Winter Palace was due to incendiarism. Recent visitors to Peking describe the incongruous appearance of the palace with stove-pipes sticking out of the roof in all directions, and it is quite possible that an overheated stove-pipe caused the catastrophe. Count von Waldersee was warned of the dangerous condition of his heating apparatus. According to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, the reason the asbestos house (which is supposed not to be inflammable) was destroyed by fire is because it was covered with a kind of felt, to keep the cold out, which was very inflammable.

WHERE COUNT VON WALDERSEE HAS FAILED.

(Daily Press, 24th April.)

It cannot be pleaded by anyone that Count VON WALDERSEE'S administration of affairs in Chihli has been a success; rather from many points of view it has been a failure. We say this, not from any mere sectional or national point of view, because from the very beginning we have held that the only conceivable means of settlement of a confessedly difficult situation has lain in a cordial co-operation between England and Germany. We do not blame the German Government, who have shown a readiness to act with us in bringing about a peaceful settlement, nor do we accuse Count VON WALDERSEE himself of having been actuated by any underhand or unworthy motives. The German Commander-in-Chief has shown himself an able soldier, and a gentleman of honour, and has won the individual respect of all with whom he has come in contact; and yet, we regret to have to state it openly, the condition of Chihli, and of affairs generally, is worse than at the beginning of his rule. It is true Count VON WALDERSEE has been, we may say cruelly, hampered, by the want of confidence displayed towards him personally by the other Governments, his best plans have been thwarted, and difficulties which he had no right to expect have been thrown in his path. When, however, we have made due allowance for all this, we yet feel justified in stating that the Commander has failed to perceive the exigencies of the case, and has been practically placed in the wrong from the beginning by the subtle manoeuvres of his, and our, arch enemy LI HUNG-CHANG. In the words of Lord ROBERTS, commenting on General COLVILLE, he has shown a want of initiative and military capacity in his conduct of the war against the Boxers in Chihli, and instead of gathering to his side the elements of good order existing at the time, he has ended in converting to hostility the entire population of the Metropolitan Province.

This is, we are aware, a grave charge to make against an officer of ability and discretion, whose military accomplishments have never been called in question. Count VON WALDERSEE'S honours have, however, been won in a very different field, and against very different enemies from those he has met in China. It is no discredit to him that, as a soldier and a man of honour, he should have failed when matched against so notorious a dissembler as the Viceroy of Chihli. We have more than once had occasion to refer to the inefficient and polluted sources on which the Commander-in-Chief has been wont to rely. In fact his intelligence department has been practically in the hands of the enemy; and those on whom he relied have all through been acting as spies for the Chinese Viceroy. The knowledge necessary to accomplish the outrage of burning the Winter Palace and the disappearance of his chief of staff must have come from his own surroundings; nor is this the only instance. The murder of Captain BARTSCH on the high road from the Summer Palace, and scarcely five miles outside Peking, points to a similarly deep laid plot, evidently planned within the Commander's own lines. That such an outrage could occur under the circumstance of Captain BARTSCH'S ride from Sheoshan to Peking is of course, conceivable with the best organised service; but the unsatisfactory part of the affair is that it happened so soon after attention had been drawn to the defects of Count VON WALDERSEE'S command. The repetition of the crime within

a week, where the intention was evidently to capture or get rid of the Commander-in-Chief himself, shows to what lengths the party of disorder is prepared to go. From what has been stated on a previous occasion, we fear that the Commander-in-Chief personally cannot be exonerated from blame, and that he has permitted himself to be befooled in trusting to a set of spies, evidently in close touch with the enemy. Were the result merely personal and confined to the safety of his staff, the result would be still disastrous; but its effects have been deeper and more dangerous. The Commander under the evil inspiration of his intelligence department has been led into making attacks on innocent places and innocent people, so that German military rule in the province has become a by-word for inefficiency and injustice. That the guilty should suffer condign punishment is right and proper, and we certainly do not feel disposed to utter any mealy-mouthed protests against what we conceive to be the truest humanity in the end. It becomes, however, a direct source of danger, when, acting on false information, an army becomes a source of dread to the well-disposed, and innocent. Had our information come from but one source or could it be traced to any one spring, we should hesitate to give it publicity, but as it comes from two perfectly separate and independent sources, both of whom we are individually bound to respect, we feel we are acting in the interests of everyone in giving it publicity.

FRANCE IN SOUTH AND WEST CHINA.

(Daily Press, 22nd April.)

In a recent issue the *Echo de Chine* reproduced from the *Dépêche Coloniale* an article, signed with the well-known signature of CH. LEMIRE, which is certainly interesting and possibly not without importance. The writer discusses the establishment of more rapid and more certain relations between Indo-China and Russia via Western China. He calls attention to the report of the Chinese Court settling at Cheungtu in Szechuen, "where we (the French) in common with the Russians have preponderating commercial interests," which would necessitate French troops being sent overland from Tonkin to protect France's nationals, according to M. LEMIRE; and to the decision of Russia to connect Omsk, the capital of Western Siberia, with the capital of Semiretschinsk province, from which the line will be carried to Tashkend, Russian Turkestan, and thence across the Chinese frontier. M. LEMIRE continues: "From Tashkend to Liangchou the distance is, as we have said, 300 miles. Now Liangchou is a telegraphic station on the line from Kuldja to Hsianfu. All that is required is to join this point to Chengtu, which is already in telegraphic connection with Yunnanfu, Laokai, and Hanoi." France now has her duty, says the writer; and that is, not to allow the erection of an Anglo-German barrier such as would arise from the occupation of the Yangtze region by these two Powers. "Our true wall of China," goes on M. LEMIRE, "should consist in the projected establishment of a Russian railway from Samarkand to Hankow." Such is the scheme; Russia is to build the railways and telegraph lines, and France is to keep the way clear to the south. It was formerly considered utopian, M. LEMIRE says, but is so no longer. Personally we see nothing "utopian" about the scheme, but different nations have different

views about Utopia. But that Szechuen is to be calmly abandoned to the preponderating influences of France and Russia, and that Britain and Germany are about to watch Russia establish a barrier across the Yangtze Valley, are at least improbable ideas. Britain and Germany do not want to occupy the Valley but to keep it open. Russia's advance from the north will be strictly watched, there can be no doubt. French intrigues in the south will ultimately claim the attention which at present is not given to them. We have listened for many years to France's preposterous claims to a sphere of influence in the two Kwang provinces, Yunnan, and Szechuen. It is time that it should be made clear that such claims will never be recognised by the commercial Powers any more than they are by China herself. France's interest in the provinces in question arises simply from contiguity; statistics easily show how paltry is her commerce with them. The day of land-grabbing in China, under whatever pretext, must be brought to an end, now that the Powers have decided against the disastrous policy of partition.

AFFORESTATION IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 20th April.)

One of the spending departments of the Government which does good work and finds little fame and scant encouragement is the Afforestation Department. This department, which, in a Colony of such limited area as Hongkong was, before the recent lease of the adjoining islands and a large concession on the mainland, rightly tacked on to the Botanical Gardens, has always been more or less starved, to the detriment of the City of Victoria and of the woods and forests of the colony. Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY was the only Governor who ever took much interest in the Department or its work, and he was certainly the only Governor who ever proposed a really liberal vote for it. Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY encouraged the planting on a small scale, it is true, but this was only on the slopes immediately behind the City of Victoria. Sir JOHN HENNESSY went in for planting on a large scale, over considerable areas in the island, and most of our forests of pine-trees were commenced during or immediately following his administration. The result is before the community, and it will be generally admitted that it is equally pleasing and salubrious. Most disastrous results have followed the denudation of the forest areas in numerous countries, both as regards hygienic conditions and in connection with the rainfall. France, Spain, Italy and most of the American states colonised by the Spaniards have found reason to lament the wanton and wholesale destruction of their forests without provision being made for re-planting. Many States in the American Union have also seen cause to regret the undue destruction of their timber. In Hongkong we have nothing to reproach ourselves with on this head. The timber was never there to destroy since the island was ceded to Great Britain, though during the past twelve months we have suffered more largely than perhaps ever before from forest fires, which have laid waste large stretches of hill-side on the south of the island. This may be due to the paucity of forest guards for the work they ought to do. The broken branches and prostrate trees still lie all about, cumbering and disfiguring the ground, and bearing silent evidence to the fury of the typhoon of November last. This neglect is certainly due to the fact that the Department is undermanned. Mr. FORD has been

absent in England, and his assistant has been acting as head of the Department meanwhile, expecting no doubt to receive assistance, which has never come, and has been obliged to worry along as best he could. We believe that the forest guard consists of only half a dozen Chinese, who do their best, apparently, to prevent tree-cutting, and, judging by the number of convictions secured, they are not inactive. But the number of these depredations is far greater than it would be if the staff were not so limited, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that the hill fires, by which such large tracts are laid bare, would also be reduced in number and extent were more supervision possible, and the penalties for causing these fires made heavier.

Now that the area of the Colony has been so greatly extended, it is high time that a branch of the Afforestation Department should be formed for work on the mainland. The roads and paths in Kowloon, which have been so much increased, require much more attention, both in the way of tree planting and judicious ornamentation where opportunity offers. Apart from this work, however, the work of planting the slopes of the numerous hill-ranges is one that should be undertaken by the Government, both on account of the hygienic conditions and also to secure to the ever increasing population supplies of cheap firewood. It should not be necessary to have to import all firewood from great distances, if supplies could be obtained in the immediate neighbourhood. The price of firewood, always high, fluctuates and sometimes goes to a rather abnormal rate through supplies not coming forward owing to difficulty of transport. It would be a useful stand-by to have some forests within the Colony from which a portion of the needs of Victoria could be supplied. Moreover, this Department might then give some attention to the crops raised in British territory and assist and encourage the natives to try experiments in the cultivation of new and useful products, suitable to the soil and aspect.

If the staff of this Department were increased, the Superintendent would be able to devote a little more time to research into the productions and possibilities of the Colony. He might also do more to beautify the city and the Botanic Gardens, and to add to the various little oases of verdure which here and there—but in so very few instances—relieve the dull monotony of brick and stucco that make up the general ensemble. It is intended, we understand, when the Law Courts are erected, to make gardens corresponding in size and shape to those created by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on their ground opposite to the Bank. These gardens will have to be kept up by the Superintendent of the Botanic Gardens, and it is possible, we hope, that other parterres and ferneries will be formed for the beautifying of the city and suburbs. Victoria owes most of what it possesses in this line to Mr. J. M. PRICE, formerly Surveyor-General, and Glenealy Ravine (though partially spoiled by the intrusion of some ugly houses) still retains sufficient evidences of his taste to show how he seized upon natural features, and utilised them in the creation of verdurous and picturesque nooks and corners. There will be opportunities for his successors, when healing the scars wrought by builders and road-makers, to carry out his ideas and work, to the end that the city, while developing its growth, may not become hideous and overcrowded. At present, in this utilitarian age, there is a tendency to disfigure the landscape in all directions with closely stacked brick and

mortar erections, and for the contractors to make rubbish heaps of the green turf and flower-strewn undergrowth. And there would seem to be none to prevent the multiplication of deformities.

HONGKONG'S FOOD SUPPLY AND THE NEW TERRITORY.

(Daily Press, 25th April.)

In the course of the enquiries made by the Food Supply Commission last summer the subject of the possibility of making the New Territory supply cattle for the Hongkong market to a far greater extent than it does at present came up more than once. On the evidence of Inspector J. T. COTTON, the average weight of cattle imported from the New Territory is from 200 to 300 catties, compared with 600 to 700 from Huifung and 400 to 500 from Canton and Lin Chow. In the examination of Mr. C. VIVIAN LADDS, Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, the following passage occurred, as related in the report of the Commission:—

Dr. HARTIGAN.—“We have heard evidence about the difficulty of feeding cattle in the New Territory, and one of the points was that the grass that would be required to feed them was all used up in smoking and burning bottoms of junks. Is that so?”

A.—“That is all rubbish.”

Q.—“And there is no reason why we should not have cattle on the New Territory?”

A.—“Not a bit. I say that the New Territory ought to provide 10,000 cattle.”

Here it may be noted that in 1899 23,582 head of cattle were used in the Colony, so that in the judgment of Mr. LADDS the New Territory should be able to supply between a half and a third of the total quantity required, instead of considerably less than a quarter, as at present. Again on the evidence of one of the two leading Chinese butchers there is “a lot more cattle wanted in Hongkong”; and on the testimony of Inspector COTTON the dealers in Hongkong do not buy the best kind of cattle, and the breed on the New Territory requires improvement.

It appears therefore from the evidence before the Commission that there is ample scope for cattle-breeding in the New Territory, which supplies at the present time an inadequate quantity and an inferior quality. Meanwhile the Colony labours under the burden of enormously increased prices for beef, amounting to a rise of 33 per cent. in the last five years. A similar state of affairs exists with regard to pork, the New Territory apparently also a very promising field for pig-breeding. Mr. LADDS, asked before the Commission to suggest a practical method with regard to cattle-raising in the New Territory, advised that the Government should purchase a number of calves at so much a head, and distribute them over the various districts to every head man in each village and to deserving people in those villages, one to each, under a distinct understanding that they are to raise them for the Hongkong market, and when they are full-grown and sold that they are to repay to the Government the money which the animal cost. There seems on the surface no objection to Mr. LADDS's scheme, and we do not know what objection the Government could find to it. The question is one which we should like to see carefully discussed, and if it is not proved that such a scheme is impracticable we hope that time will not be lost in putting it into execution. No

more feasible method of fighting the “ring” which has raised the price of meat was brought forward before the Food Supply Commission, and the Commission itself endorsed the suggestion when it recommended the Government to “encourage the villagers of the New Territory to breed cattle by providing them with funds for the purchase of stock (to be repaid when the animal is brought to market) or with heifers from a Government stockyard. It is now three years since the New Territory passed into British hands. It is time therefore that some efforts were made to convert it into something else than a heavy and unmitigated expense to the Colony. No doubt the elaborate system of land registration which the Government is carrying out is very important, but we cannot see that it need stop every attempt to begin making the Territory do something toward paying its way. Otherwise it merely remains a “white elephant” for years to come.

COMMERCIAL LOSSES OF THE STATES IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 26th April.)

A copy of No. 988 of the Advance Sheets of United States Consular Reports, which we have had the opportunity of seeing, deals with the effect of the Boxer trouble of last year on the trade of the United States. The report is the work of Mr. JOHN FOWLER, United States Consul at Chefoo, and is supplemented by a few remarks by Mr. J. W. RAGSDALE, United States Consul at Tientsin, on the export trade from that port. Mr. FOWLER states his object to be to show what the Boxers cost the American exporter, a phase of the question which has not been treated elsewhere, though of course such statistics can be extracted with the expenditure of some labour from the returns of the Imperial Maritime Customs. Probably, he says, no country in the world suffered as much as did the United States (in its export trade to China), for the scene of the recent strife covered practically the field of American trade in China. We do not propose to follow Mr. FOWLER into his detailed statistics, but only to give a general idea of his argument. He points out first that in the quarter ended 30th June, 1900, imports to Chefoo of merchandise specially termed American showed enormous increases from the figures of the same quarter in 1899. The import of kerosene, for instance, showed the huge rise of 1,220,890 gallons, much more than 100 per cent. Then Mr. FOWLER gives the figures for the same class of imports in the quarters ended 30th September, 1899 and 1900, which show that such trade fell away practically to nothing at all; taking kerosene again for an instance, we find the 857,100 gallons in 1899 fall to 5,000 gallons in 1900. Yet Chefoo and the interior, says Mr. FOWLER, saw no armed hordes, no military movements, and, as compared with the immediate northern ports, was peaceful; as a matter of fact, Chefoo was the base for communication with the allies and the world, while Shantung was comparatively quiet, owing entirely to the friendly stand taken by YUAN SHIKAI. In Tientsin the effects of the Boxer movement were felt much earlier and more seriously, and decreases were general even in the second quarter of the year, except in the item of kerosene oil. The American lumber trade in particular suffered enormously, ships with Oregon lumber reaching Taku and being unable to land their cargoes. One firm alone paid \$5,000 on demurrages on this account and

also lost the sale of the lumber. In the third quarter the losses in American imports amounted almost to annihilation. As for the trade with Newchwang, Mr. FOWLER says of the figures:—"This is annihilation pure and simple." For the three northern ports together in the second quarter of 1900 American imports declined more than half from those of the same period of 1899, in spite of the large gains credited to Chefoo. In the third quarter the decreases in the five articles particularly specified by Mr. FOWLER were as follows:—Drills, from 371,172 to 20,589 pieces; jeans, from 22,930 to 3,340 pieces; sheetings, 839,480 to 81,790 pieces; flour, 158,275 to 19,225 Hk. Tls.; kerosene, 2,058,100 to 50,000 gallons. The above, as the report says, gives a good idea of what a mob in China can do in interfering with trade. An examination of the returns issued by the United States Treasury Department reveals the following figures as to the value of exports from the States to China for the first ten months of 1899 and 1900:—

1899	\$12,628,955
1900	10,442,811

Loss 2,186,144

Mr. FOWLER continues:—"This does not show what we really lost, for there are immense quantities of merchandise in the ports to be worked off before importations can recommence. The year 1900 began with the greatest increase in our trade ever known, and ended with the most serious losses. The losses to the cotton trade alone I estimate at over \$3,000,000."

The sketch which we have given of Mr. FOWLER's report will furnish some idea of the losses sustained by one country through the disastrous events of last year in North China. A rapidly expanding trade was reduced practically to non-existence within a short space of time; the retrogression was general; and so unsettled are affairs still that it will be a long time, in the judgment of those who have devoted themselves to the study of the situation, before there can be any beginning of a recovery of the lost trade. It is more than ever evident, from the commercial point of view, that in seeking reparation from China for the outrages of last year what is to be aimed at is not huge sums of money wrung from the people, which will only injure their buying powers for many years to come, but increased facilities for traders. By such means alone can the prospect become bright. The Western Powers, or at least the majority of them, have come to China professedly to trade. Yet from the standpoint of trade their proceedings in the past have often been absolutely unreasonable. There is no certainty that their conduct will not be so again. We have not the particulars of the indemnities claimed from China, but we trust that the reports which have reached us of enormous pecuniary burdens to be fastened on China, are not merely premature but incorrect.

The Taichow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes on the 11th inst.:—"A deep rumour rose yesterday, and is confirmed to-day, that the French have revived the infamous Wante case of two years since. The prefect Kuo (now of Ningpo), the late chentai of Haimen, his chongfu, and the Huangyen chihai, are among others to be degraded, and the examinations are to be stopped till the huge indemnity is paid. (The first-named was degraded to Ningpo because he executed Wante.) We trust it is but rumour, but if true, we cannot but ask, What can our French neighbours be thinking about? Surely wiser counsels would have said: "Let sleeping dogs lie. Was not their man's head enough?"

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS]

SHANGHAI, 19th April, 7 20 p.m.

The students in Chekiang deny that they are chargeable for outrages last year. Always turbulent, they are now greatly incensed at the suspension of the provincial examinations and threaten to burn the official yamens and expel the mandarins.

H.M.S. *Centurion* is going to Hongkong. Admiral Seymour leaves in H.M.S. *Alacrity* for Nagasaki to-morrow.

SHANGHAI, 21st April, 7.52 p.m.

It is reported from Moukden that the Russians have lent Tseng Chi, the Tartar-General of Fengtien, four hundred thousand taels to enable him to raise a military police force in the Province.

General Feng Tse-tsai, commanding the troops in Yunnan, has passed Chengtu with 8,000 drilled troops and is proceeding to Hsianfu.

SHANGHAI, 23rd April, 8.40 p.m.

Information has reached here that, notwithstanding all reports to the contrary, the Court has made arrangements to leave Hsian at once. Their destination is, however, secret. The provincial authorities have been ordered to stop sending supplies.

HONGKONG'S MESSAGE TO THE DUKE OF YORK.

The following message was despatched on Tuesday to H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and York at Singapore:—

"Hongkong, 23rd April.

"TO H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CORNWALL AND YORK.

"The Members of the Legislative Council of Hongkong desire on the part of the community to wish your Royal Highnesses God-speed and a safe return, and to express their regret that circumstances prevented the community of this important Colony from having the honour of receiving a visit and offering to your Royal Highnesses a hearty and loyal welcome.

"GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG."

The following answer was received:—

"Singapore, 23rd April.

"FROM H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CORNWALL AND YORK TO GOVERNOR, HONGKONG.

"Please convey our best thanks to members of Legislative Council and to whole community for their kind message. I much regret impossible to visit Hongkong, where I feel sure loyal and hearty welcome ever awaits us.

"GEORGE."

We have received the first two numbers of the *Philippine Argonaut*, a Sunday journal which commenced its existence at Manila on the 7th inst. It is a neat-looking paper, after the style of the *San Francisco Argonaut*. The following lines from the introductory article will explain its objects:—"It is the aim of its projectors to make it a publication representative of the education and refinement of these Islands. It will from week to week present a condensation of the news of the States, so that Americans resident in the Islands may constantly be in touch with home and, on the other hand, it will bring to the people of the States pictures of life in the Orient. Considerable attention will be paid to society, Filipino home life, agriculture, resources, industries and possibilities. It will weekly give the history of local happenings in Manila and throughout the islands of the group and in a general way aim to be a reflex of all local happenings. Editorially it will discuss all questions that may arise and engage the public mind, and will do so from an independent, unbiased standpoint."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 23rd inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

Hon. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. C. McI. MESSER (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. BASIL TAYLOR (Acting Harbour Master).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

THE FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The Financial Minutes No. 17 to 25 came before the Council, and were passed *nem-con.*

THE HOSPITAL HULK "HYGEIA."

No. 17 was a recommendation from His Excellency the Governor to the Council to vote a sum of \$3,320 to provide new moorings for the hospital-hulk *Hygeia*.

Carried.

THE STARLING INLET POLICE STATION.

No. 18 was a recommendation from His Excellency to vote a sum of \$170 for the erection of a coal-store at Starling Inlet Police Station.

Carried.

THE EDUCATION OF CADETS.

No. 19.—The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$9,036.25 to meet the expenses incurred by the Government of the Federated Malay States in respect of the Cadets Messrs. E. D. C. Wolfe and S. B. C. Ross.

Carried.

THE GAOL OFFICER'S QUARTERS.

The Governor recommended Financial Minute No. 20, which was a recommendation to vote a sum of \$990, being the rent of quarters for gaol officers for nine months at \$110 a month for the current year.

Carried.

THE WAGLAN LIGHT STATION.

Financial Minute No. 21 was then put to the Council. It was a recommendation from the Governor to the Council to vote a sum of \$288 to cover the cost of certain articles required for the use of the Waglan Light Station.

Carried.

THE SAIKUNG POLICE STATION.

Financial Minutes Nos 22 and 23 were recommendations from the Governor to the Council to re-vote the some of \$8,871.95, being unexpended balance of the votes for 1900, and to vote \$1,294 under the head "Public Works" Extraordinary for the construction of a police station at Saikung.

Carried.

THE NOVEMBER TYPHOON.

Financial Minute 24. The Governor recommended the Council to vote \$553.52 to meet the cost of certain repairs of certain damages done by the typhoon in November last.

Carried.

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY the Minutes were referred to the Finance Committee.

FINANCE.

The report of the proceedings of the Finance Committee held on the 11th ult. was adopted on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

PAPERS.

The following papers were laid on the table. The report of the Food Supply Commission; report of the Acting principal Civil Medical Officer for the year 1900; Harbour Master's report as to the removal of Cape D'Aguiar Light to Green Island, dated 25th August, 1900; report of the Treasurer and the Acting Postmaster General as to revenue and expenditure of British Post Offices in China, dated 25th February, 1901; financial returns for the year 1900; report of the Superintendent of Fire Brigade 1900, and report of the Acting Superin-

tendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department for 1900.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the adjournment of the Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The Minutes Nos 17 to 25 were put before the meeting *seriatim* and carried. With respect to the vote for

THE ADDITIONAL CADETS.

Hon. C. P. CHATER said—I should like to know something more about this vote.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—We wanted some additional cadets, and the Secretary of State ordered that two cadets, Messrs. E. D. G. Wolfe and S. B. C. Ross, who had been sent out to the Malay Federated States, should be sent on here. The Malay States have incurred certain expenditure in bringing out these gentlemen, and also in providing for their education in Chinese, and it is this expense that we have to recoup to the Malay States.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Where are these cadets now?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—They are in Canton, studying Chinese.

Carried.

The Committee then adjourned.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 18th April, 1901.—Present: Sir Thomas Jackson (chairman), Mr. C. S. Sharp (vice-chairman), Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. W. Poate, R. L. Richardson, H. A. Ritchie, N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, Hon. J. Thurburn (*ex officio*), and R. C. Wilcox (secretary).—

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting (held 19th March) were read and confirmed.

RESIGNATION OF MEMBER.

The Secretary reported the resignation by the Belgian Trading Company of membership of the Chamber, owing to their having closed their branch in Hongkong.

THE REGULATION OF SAILING CRAFT IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

On the 26th March a letter having been received from the Colonial Secretary, in reply to the Chamber's letter of 19th idem, acknowledging receipt thereof and stating that H. E. the Governor would be glad to receive particulars of any other disasters similar to that which recently befel the s.s. *Menelaus* in the entrances to Hongkong harbour.

A list of such disasters was compiled and embodied in a letter sent to the Colonial Secretary on the 11th April. Letter read.

In reply to the Chairman.

Hon. J. Thurburn said he understood the Government were in communication with the Singapore authorities on the subject.

An opinion was expressed by the Committee that it ought not be a difficult undertaking to provide for the regulation of sailing craft in the narrow approaches to the harbour.

THE PUBLICATION OF QUARANTINE NOTICES.

Read letter from the Government, dated 2nd April, transmitting copy of a despatch from the Acting Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements detailing the measures taken at Singapore to make public notifications of quarantine or medical inspection and expressing the opinion, in view of the steps adopted to secure publicity, that masters of vessels have little reason to complain of the difficulty of obtaining such information.

THE FUMIGATING BUREAU AND THE RELAXATION OF QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS.

Read letter dated 3rd April, from the Acting Colonial Secretary, in continuation of previous correspondence, and transmitting copy of a letter from the Straits Settlements Government to the effect that it was first proposed, after correspondence with the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, to permit immigrants to land after undergoing ten days' quarantine on the under-

standing that the measures proposed by the Hongkong Chamber were carried out under Government supervision, but that, in consequence of the marked increase of plague in Hongkong, it became necessary to declare that port infected, and the proposals outlined above could not now be carried out.

Some discussion followed, and the opinion was expressed that the Straits Government, if aware of the present actual sanitary condition of the Colony, where the plague was not epidemic, would perhaps not have been quite so hasty in declaring the port infected.

QUARANTINE AND MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The Secretary reported that letters on the above subject had been received from the Government on the 25th March, and the 4th, 10th and 12th April, covering copies of notifications from the Governments of the Straits Settlements, Bengal, Burmah and Madras, announcing that Hongkong had been declared an infected port by Singapore, and that at Chittagong, Burmah ports, and those of the Madras Presidency, plague restrictions would be enforced against arrivals from Hongkong and Taiwan. Also a letter stating that in Shanghai medical inspection had been imposed against arrivals from Hongkong after 18th April. Receipt of all these had been duly acknowledged and copies of the gist of most of them had been supplied to the local Press.

THE PROPOSED RE-SURVEY OF EASTERN SEAS.

As decided at the last meeting, a letter in reply to that received from the Secretary of the Fourth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, giving the substance of the reply of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to this Chamber's last communication on the subject, was despatched on the 19th March.

The letter was read.

This was all the business of general interest before the meeting.

The following is the correspondence read at the meeting:—

THE REGULATION OF SAILING CRAFT IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 19th March, 1901.

SIR,

The attention of my Committee has been drawn to the necessity existing for some amendment in the regulations for controlling and directing the navigation of sailing craft within the narrow waters of the Colony.

These regulations provide that vessels propelled by steam must give place to vessels driven by wind, and are fair and reasonable when applied to navigation in the open seas, but when applied to the approaches to the harbour they are calculated to work disastrously to large steamers, whose masters find it difficult to bring them safely through narrow channels crowded with sailing craft, whose practice it frequently is to cross their bows, and who never concede any right of way to steamers.

The latest instance of disaster resulting from this practice was afforded by the experience of the Ocean Steamship Co's steamer *Menelaus*, which, in endeavouring to avoid a junk standing in her way, went ashore in Sulphur Channel, causing a heavy loss to her owners and also to the cargo underwriters.

To obviate such disasters in the future, the Committee would suggest that, so far as the harbour entrances are concerned, the responsibility of keeping out of the way of incoming and outgoing steamers should be thrown on the small sailing vessels as is done in Singapore, where the following rule has been embodied in the local Port Regulations:—

"BOATS GOING THROUGH NEW HARBOUR.

"All native craft, boats, or rafts going through New Harbour are to keep out of the way of the steamers, and should they have to anchor are to do so well in shore, and at night to keep a light burning above the rail and visible at a distance of one mile."

The Committee are of opinion that if some similar regulation were to be enforced in the narrow waters of this Colony, it would tend to lessen the difficulties of entering or leaving a crowded harbour, and would at the same time impose no real hardship on the junk-masters and owners of native craft, who at present exer-

cise little discretion in handling their vessels and show no consideration of foreign steamers.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,

Secretary.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 26th March, 1901.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to inform you in reply that His Excellency the Governor will be glad to have particulars of any other disasters of this kind that have occurred in the entrances to the Hongkong harbour.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. CLEMENTI,

for Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 11th April, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th ult. (686) informing me in reply to my letter of the 19th idem (proposing that rules for the regulation of sailing craft in the harbour and its approaches should be formulated) that His Excellency the Governor will be glad to have particulars of any disasters similar to the recent stranding of the *Menelaus* that have occurred in the entrances to Hongkong harbour.

Many other cases of the kind can be cited, but it is difficult to record them all, as no one seems to have kept any list of dates. About twelve years ago the British steamer *Taichow* struck on some rocks in the Lyeemün Pass and broke her stern when endeavouring to avoid collision with a junk. Some years later the British steamer *Lightning* ran on the rocks off Green Island, the P. & O. steamer *Ancona* collided with a Chinese steamer off North Point, and the steamer *Zafiro* went ashore on North Point on the 14th November, 1890, all through trying to steer clear of impeding junks. The river steamer *Heungshan*, when attempting to avoid a sampan on the 20th December, 1892, by porting her helm, ran ashore near the old P. & O. Wharf. The steamer *Tuisang* while trying on the 27th June, 1895, to avoid collision with a junk, struck the Praya Wall. The steamer *Whampoa* sunk a ballast boat that tried to cross her bows while entering port, one of Messrs. Siemens & Co's steamers collided with a junk on the 17th November, 1886, when entering port, and the river steamer *Powan* was in collision with a junk in Capsuimun Pass on the 18th January, 1901.

It is not only in the narrow approaches to the harbour that such disasters occur—steamers are increasingly liable to them in the fairway which yearly becomes more crowded. The memorable case in which the P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, when entering port on the 29th November, 1886, collided with the M. M. steamer *Saghalien*, then lying at anchor, and caused her to sink, was due to the former vessel's course being impeded by some junks, the strength of the current carrying her broadside on to the French steamer when trying to avoid them.

It is obviously unfair to masters of steamers to insist that they should keep out of the way of junks and sailing vessels in the narrow approaches to a crowded harbour, more especially as these craft are usually met with in little fleets of five or six. It should also be remembered that a steamer when deeply laden carries way for a considerable time even after her engines are stopped, and if she goes astern she is liable either to cut athwart the channel, go on shore, or run into some other vessel if in the fairway.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,

Secretary.

Hon. T. SERCUMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 18th April, 1901.

SIR,

Referring to your letters of the 19th ultimo and 11th instant concerning regulations for controlling and directing the navigation of sailing craft within the narrow waters of the Colony, I am directed to inform you that this Government is in communication with the Government of the Straits Settlements on the subject.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
Chamber of Commerce.

THE PUBLICATION OF QUARANTINE NOTICES.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1901.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 350 of the 14th of last February, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to transmit for the information of your Committee the enclosed copy of a letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements respecting the publication of quarantine regulations.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
Chamber of Commerce.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Singapore, 24th March, 1901.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 349 of the 14th ultimo, transmitting copy of correspondence between the Government of Hongkong and the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce regarding the publication of information regarding quarantine restrictions and inquiring what are the views of this Government on the question, I am directed to inform you that it does not appear reasonable to expect this Government to take such steps for the publication in Singapore of restrictions imposed elsewhere as those suggested by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, though it has been arranged that in the event of quarantine restrictions being again imposed on this port in consequence of another outbreak of plague or cholera here, notices giving the required information will be posted up in the premises of the Tanjong Pagar Dock company, for general information.

2. I am, however, to point out that throughout the recent outbreak such a notice was posted in the Singapore Shipping Office in front of the dock at which Agents and Masters clear their vessels, and that the information was also given to all Masters of vessels by the Clerk in charge. A Gazette Notification to the same effect was published, and the local Press was informed.

3. In view of these facts it would appear that the Masters of ships have little reason to complain of the difficulty of obtaining information as to the existence of quarantine restrictions at their port of destination.

I have the honour, &c.,

C. W. S. KYNARDLEY,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The HONOURABLE
The COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Hongkong.

It was reported amongst the local mandarins at Shanghai last Friday that Prince Ch'un, Special Ambassador to Germany, may probably arrive there from the North in about a month or five weeks from hence, en route to Europe. In such an event, the N.-C. Daily News says, it is stated that the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, opposite the Country Club on the Bubbling Well Road, is to be selected for the Prince's temporary quarters, the place to be properly fitted for the occasion. Prince Ch'un will have the further distinction of being the first Prince of the Manchu dynasty who has ever visited Shanghai.

GAOL ADMINISTRATION IN HONGKONG.

The trial of the three convicts concerned in the recent outbreak at the Gaol has drawn public attention to the present gaol administration, and opened up a subject of all-absorbing interest to residents within the Colony. Apart from the mere statement of facts as presented at the trial, issues of a far more important character arose, and it was evident that underlying the mutinous acts of the rebellious trio were personal motives over which a curtain had been drawn up to the moment they were placed in the dock. His Lordship the Chief Justice took the initial step in withdrawing the veil and opening to public view the main reasons which led to the outbreak. It was not the harsh manner in which Mr. Craig had treated the prisoners placed under his care, for, as the Captain Superintendent stated, that gentleman was "a most humane officer"—it was, as His Lordship said, an attack against the new regulations, drawn up in March of last year. Prior to these rules being enforced the whole system of gaol administration went by "rule of thumb." It was seen by those who had the direct control that a revision was needed in the diet scales, labour tasks, and the procedure generally, and that something must be done to modernise, so to speak, the whole system under which the Gaol was conducted. Therefore, in 1899, the present regulations were revised by Capt. the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., the Superintendent of the Gaol, and were entirely recast by him and Dr. Thompson. All the regulations and diet scales for European, Chinese, and Indian prisoners were drawn to conform as near as possible to those in force in English prisons. The principal alteration made in the diet scales is that convicts at the beginning of their sentences get slightly less than they received before the new regulations, but after a certain period of confinement they were given a diet up to an equally generous scale as what they had under the old rules. A man on light labour did not get so much food as a man on hard labour. Under the old regulations there was no difference between the diets of those on hard or light labour, and the result was that the regulations had not been in force twenty-four hours before there were gangs of prisoners complaining to the doctor with a view to be placed on lighter labour, and as they would not lose any food thereby they were virtually the gainers. In English prisons a sliding scale is adopted, and has been found to work very favourably. After a convict is put on the lighter labour he does not require so much food, and the luxury of pork which was formerly given to every long-sentence prisoner—that is a prisoner with a term of two years and upwards—after he has served six months' imprisonment, is now, under the new regulations, not given until the prisoner has been three years in the Gaol. With this and other modifications in the dietary to long-sentence prisoners an advantage is gained. Indeed, a convict is a great deal better off under the new regime than he was under the old. Again with respect to the privileges as to visits and communications, a convicted prisoner sentenced to imprisonment for a period of two years and upwards is now allowed after six months incarceration to write a letter to his relatives and friends, and receive one from them, as well as be visited by them, and subsequently is allowed the same privileges at intervals to be determined according to the class he has attained by his conduct and industry. A third class prisoner can receive a letter and a visit from his relative every four months, and a second and first class prisoner can receive a communication and a similar visit once in every three months and two months respectively. Then events of importance to prisoners can be communicated to them at any time by authority of the Assistant Superintendent. One of the three prisoners who assaulted Mr. Craig had his amount of pork increased from 4 oz. to 6 oz., so that although he had to wait longer he got more diet in the end. There was another change effected when the new regulations were put in force, which some long-sentence prisoners did not look favourably upon. It was the change made in not putting the convicts to work in the kitchens,

where they must necessarily have to use dangerous weapons, such as knives, &c. Some of them complained that the food was not cooked properly, and they wanted the old convicts placed in the kitchens again. Of course their requests were unheeded.

The whole of the regulations were introduced without any trouble whatever, and the diet scales being rather in favour of the prisoner than otherwise matters went off very smoothly in the Gaol till the three prisoners mentioned ran amok. Having regard to the "divinity that doth hedge" a superintendent of Government prisons, and the difficulties which an Assistant must necessarily meet with in introducing new rules, and following them up with caution and diligence, compatible with the requirements of discipline, it says much for Mr. Craig that the charges brought him have entirely and absolutely failed. The regulations were drawn up by the Hon. F. H. May, as Gaol Superintendent; they were approved by the Governor in Council; then submitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and sanctioned. Taken as a whole they are said by those best able to judge to be the most modern set of rules in existence in English prisons as well as in British Colonies.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG IN 1900.

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1900 is now published. We make the following extracts:—

AREA.

The island of Hongkong has an area of rather more than 29 square miles and the City of Victoria is situated upon its northern shore, extending along the sea front for a distance of four-and-a-half miles and up the hillside to the city limit of 600 feet above high-water mark.

The domestic building of the City of Victoria number 8,600 (exclusive of Barracks and Police Stations) of which 738 are European dwellings, while there are also some 130 European dwellings in the hill district. This shows a decrease of 14 non-Chinese dwellings as compared with the previous year and an increase of 693 Chinese dwellings. The plans of 1,319 new buildings, and of alterations to 3,186 existing buildings have passed through my hands during the year, with a view to seeing that they complied strictly with the Public Health Ordinances of the colony. During the previous year plans of 634 new buildings, and of alterations to 772 existing buildings were received, so that the records of the past year show great activity in building operations throughout the colony, which has been occasioned in part by the alterations required by Ordinance 34 of 1899.

POPULATION.

The population of the Colony at the Census taken in January, 1897, was 248,880, while at the Census taken in January, 1901, it was 283,955, exclusive of the Army and Navy.

The following is the estimated population to the middle of 1900:—

Non-Chinese Population,	9,130
Chinese Population	
City of Victoria, including Peak and Stonecutters' Island ..	174,910
Villages of Hongkong and Kowloon	53,520
Floating Population	40,180
Total Chinese Population	268,610
Army	2,568
Navy	3,110

Total Population of the Colony ... 283,418

Neither the Census returns, nor the estimates given above, include that portion of Kowloon to which the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Board was extended at the end of last year.

The total strength of troops in garrison on June 30th, 1900, was 53 British officers and 1,143 British warrant officers, N. C. O.'s and men, with 11 Indian officers and 909 Indian warrant officers, N. C. O.'s and men, making a total of 2,116 as compared with 2,098 in the previous year. There were in addition 81

British women and 150 British children, and also 82 Asiatic women and 139 Asiatic children on the strength. The reduction in the number of troops in the colony at this period of the year is explained by the fact that a number of them were serving in the north with the China Expeditionary Force. At the Census taken in January, 1901, there were 5,591 officers and men and 2,399 camp followers resident in the colony, making a total of 7,990.

The total strength of the British fleet on the China station on June 30th, 1900, was 6,719 British officers and men, 391 Chinese servants and 1 Japanese servant, making a total of 7,110 as compared with 7,738 in the previous year. At the census taken in January, 1901, the actual number of officers and men of His Majesty's Navy present in the colony was 5,597, and the estimated average number resident here (ashore and afloat) throughout the year 1900 is put at 3,110.

The Chinese boat population of the colony (including 1,180 Chinese on the merchant ships in the harbour) numbered 41,281 at the census taken in January, 1901, and has been estimated at 40,180 to the middle of the year 1900.

The number of registered boats belonging to the port in 1900 was as follows:—

Fishing and trading junks 7,434
Cargo-boats, lighters, sampans, etc. 4,933

Total 11,367

This represents an average of 3.4 persons per boat, which is precisely the same as the average at the previous census.

The number of boats licensed in 1893 was 10,885 and in 1898 it was 10,150.

The figures for 1900 do not include 1,165 fishing junks licensed for Cheung Chau, 767 for Tai O and 2,154 for Taipo, as these villages in the New Territory do not come within the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Board, nor are they included in the estimates of population.

The population of the colony is classified primarily into Chinese and non-Chinese, the former being greatly in the majority. The non-Chinese comprise a white population of 10,020, of whom 4,342 are civilians and the remainder belong either to the Army or the Navy. The coloured races (non-Chinese) number 4,788 and include East Indians, Malays, Filipinos, and a few Africans and Japanese, while the coloured Portuguese alone number 1,898.

The population is essentially a male adult one, as no less than 72.9 per cent. of the Chinese population and 62.6 per cent. of the non-Chinese civil population are males, while more than half the civil population (55.9 per cent. of the Chinese and 47.6 per cent. of the non-Chinese) are between the ages of 20 and 45. The proportion of the population of Great Britain between these ages is only 33.8 per cent.

The recent Census has revealed the fact that during the past four years—that is to say since the Census taken in January, 1897—the excess of males over females has become more marked, both among the Chinese and the non-Chinese community, for the previous proportions were 70.9 per cent. of males among the Chinese, and 58.6 per cent. of males among the Non-Chinese. The greatly increased rentals of domestic buildings, during the past four years, are no doubt the cause of this reduction in the female population, for both the Chinese and the non-Chinese community have found it increasingly difficult to obtain family dwellings at a rental which would bear a just proportion to their earnings. It will be noted that the reduction is even more marked among the non-Chinese community than among the Chinese, and until cheap and rapid transit is afforded to the outlying districts of the City, I am afraid that this great disproportion of the sexes will be maintained, or even further accentuated.

BIRTHS.

The births registered during the year were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Chinese,	431	247	678
White,	69	54	123
Non-Chinese, { Coloured,	82	56	138
	582	357	939

This is equivalent to a general birth-rate of 3.3 per 1,000, as compared with 4.5 per 1,000 in

1899, and 4.7 per 1,000 in 1898. The birth-rate among the non-Chinese community alone was 15.1 per 1,000, as compared with 17.7 per 1,000 in 1899 and 15.9 per 1,000 in 1898.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered during the year was 6,773 as compared with 6,181 during the previous year. The death-rate for 1900 was therefore 23.9 per 1,000 as compared with 23.8 per 1,000 in 1899, and an average of 22.2 per 1,000 during the preceding five years. These deaths include 1,022 from bubonic fever (plague).

The death-rate of the colony shows a marked reduction during the past ten years, when compared with the rate for the previous decade, but there can be no question that, with such a young adult population as exists in this colony, the death-rate can be very much further reduced by improvements in the conditions under which the bulk of the population are housed.

The total number of deaths among the Chinese community was 6,471, which is equal to a death-rate of 24.1 per 1,000, as compared with 24.4 per 1,000 during the previous year.

The deaths registered among the non-Chinese numbered 302, of which 228 were from the Civil population, 59 from the Army and 15 from the Navy; this is equal to a death-rate of 20.4 per 1,000.

The nationalities of these deaths were as follows:—British and American 119, Indian and Malay 103, Portuguese 40, Japanese 11, German 11, French 10, Norwegian 5, Italian 2, and Austrian 1. The total death-rate among the white races was therefore 15.2 per 1,000 as compared with 12.4 per 1,000 in 1899, and among the coloured races it was 30.2 per 1,000 as compared with 28.3 per 1,000 in the previous year.

MOSQUITOES AND MALARIA.

A report by Dr. J. C. Thomson on the results of his examination of mosquitoes during the first quarter of 1901 is published in the *Gazette*. Detailed tables are given of the discoveries, which are too long for reproduction here. A total of 7,490 mosquitoes was examined, and of these 227, or 3 per cent., were found to be *Anopheles*, of two species, and the remainder *Culex*, of five species. For the months October—March the following were the percentages of *Anopheles*:—October 26.4, November 6.3, December 5.9, January 4.2, February 1.4, March 3.1. It will be noted, says Dr. Thomson, that the percentage prevalence of *Anopheles* among the specimens caught bears a very striking proportion to the known facts as to the prevalence of malarial fever in the Colony. There is a gradual fall from October to February, when a minimum is reached. In most years the minimum of malaria is either in February or March.

The report is accompanied by a copy of the following circular issued by Dr. Thomson in March for the guidance of his assistants in the enquiry:—

MEMORANDUM ON THE COLLECTION OF MOSQUITOES.

After a few months' experience of what may be done in the matter of collecting and classifying mosquitoes, I think it well to offer a few general remarks in order to secure more uniform action among those who are assisting me; and in doing so I wish to convey my best thanks to the officers of the police force for their hearty co-operation. My first quarterly report on the subject was published in the *Gazette* of 12th January last.

The mosquitoes have in nearly all cases reached me in good condition, and the method of catching and transmitting previously suggested has proved quite satisfactory. They should be caught by means of the glass test tubes supplied, killed by a whiff of tobacco smoke, and then addressed in an ordinary matchbox to the Chief Inspector at the Central Police Station. No packing of any kind is necessary, other than the wrapping of the box in a piece of paper. The name of the station from which the parcel is sent should in all cases be written on the outside.

As the malaria-bearing mosquito (*Anopheles*) bites usually, or always, at night, it is important for purposes of this enquiry that the insects should for the most part be collected in the evening, or from mosquito-curtains in the

early morning. As, however, some species of mosquitoes bite only, or generally, during the day, specimens of forms seen flying about in the daytime should be included. A good working rule would be that least two-thirds of those sent should be caught in the evening.

They should be sent when fresh, and should as much as possible be caught within the twenty-four hours preceding the despatch of the parcel. After they become dry, they tend to break up, and classification of them is less satisfactory.

I am especially desirous of having the weekly consignments from all parts of the Colony and the New Territory sent as regularly as possible. It is not desirable to send large numbers from any one station, as this tends to give inaccurate averages for the Colony as a whole. No consignment should exceed two dozen. No selection should be made, and at stations where the insects are abundant and easily caught, the first dozen or so mosquitoes that are taken on any given date should be sent. Any selection of special mosquitoes would give erroneous results. While I thus suggest a maximum limit, for the reason mentioned, I would express my special indebtedness to those who have entered so enthusiastically into this matter as to make such a limitation desirable.

On the other hand, officers in charge of certain stations who have been unable to find the weekly dozen at first asked for have sometimes sent none. I shall be glad to receive weekly consignments of even a very few mosquitoes rather than have stations unrepresented in some weeks, with consequent unequal results in the different weeks or months.

The mosquitoes need not necessarily be caught within the stations, but anywhere either within them or in their neighbourhoods; the general idea being that the police stations approximately represent the whole area of the Colony and its dependencies, and hence a systematic classification of mosquitoes sent regularly from all the stations throughout the whole year will give practically accurate knowledge as to the relative prevalence of the various kinds of mosquitoes that exist in Hongkong.

THE MURDER OF BRITISH SAILORS AT NAGASAKI.

The *Nagasaki Press* of the 12th inst. says:—

"The disgraceful affrays which have taken place during the last few days between the British and French bluejackets and soldiers were of so serious a nature as to call for immediate steps to be taken to prevent the possibility of their recurrence. As usual in such cases, it is impossible to arrive at the origin of the quarrel between the two parties, and as encounters between 'Jacks ashore' are liable to arise on very trifling provocation, it is unnecessary to pursue minute investigations on the point. So long as the fighting partakes merely of the nature of fist-cuffs, not much harm is done, and the public are apt to view the indulgence of sailors in this form of amusement with considerable leniency. Unfortunately the disturbances of the last few days have been more serious, many of the belligerents having been armed with formidable clubs and sword-sticks. The death of one British bluejacket has to be recorded, while certainly three others are seriously injured and may succumb to their wounds. We regret to say that in the dastardly use of lethal weapons our Gallic visitors were to blame, their ideas of fairplay being somewhat elastic, and the fact that it was possible for them to purchase such dangerous weapons as sword-sticks in this town should cause the police authorities to investigate the sale of these goods and to impose some prohibition, for, so far as we know, there is no excuse whatever for carrying arms of offence....

"That further bloodshed did not ensue on Wednesday last is in a great measure due to the praiseworthy action of certain of the French military officers, who, realising the perilous situation, at once got their men in hand and sent them off to their ships, thus disposing of the soldierly element, although the French bluejackets did not appear inclined to recognise military authority. On the other hand we regret to record that in spite of the knowledge of what had taken place on Tuesday night, and with the strong probability of

the *Barfleur's* men seeking revenge for the injuries to one of their marines, the officers of that vessel took no precautions for controlling their liberty men, and there was no patrol from that ship.

"The Japanese police force was again demonstrated to be absolutely valueless to cope with such a disturbance, and it is far from reassuring to the inhabitants of this town to find that a handful of obstreperous sailors are able to take complete possession of the streets for some hours and to create a state of affairs which is nothing less than a serious riot. A seaport town such as Nagasaki, where large bodies of men are let loose in search of amusement and mischief, requires an efficient and powerful set of police whose arms as well as presence are able to impress evil-doers with the majesty of the law."

It is stated in the Nagasaki paper that no arrests were made, or can now be made, as the transport *Nive*, with the soldiers who committed the murders, sailed for Tonkin on the 12th inst.

We are sorry to learn, the *Nagasaki Press* says, that Stoker Brooks, of H.B.M.S. *Barfleur*, has succumbed to the injuries inflicted upon him by a party of Frenchmen on Tuesday evening, 16th inst. As already reported, Brooks, while seated alone in one of the saloons, was savagely attacked by several French sailors, who inflicted by the aid of bottles terrible injuries to the poor fellow's head. Two days ago an operation was performed on Brooks and two pieces of glass were extracted from his head. It was hoped the unfortunate man would pull through, but on Tuesday, as above stated, he died, thus adding one more victim to French brutality.

The latest report in connection with the affair is that the French soldiers who took part in the murderous assault will be brought back to Nagasaki for identification, and that H.B.M. Consul, Mr. Longford, is detaining two witnesses who claim that they are able to recognize the man that stabbed Snell (the man who died on the 10th inst.). One of the witnesses is an American soldier, and it is stated that the American Consul has advised the man to stay here, paying his board at one of the local hotels. How much of this is true the *Nagasaki Press* is unable to say.

AGUINALDO'S PROCLAMATION TO THE FILIPINOS.

The following is the English, text of Emilio Aguinaldo's address to the Filipino people, published on the 19th inst. in English, Spanish, and Tagal:—

TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE:—

I believe that I am not in error in presuming that the unhappy fate to which my adverse fortune has led me is not a surprise to those who have been familiar day by day with the progress of the war. The lessons thus taught, the full meaning of which has but recently come to my knowledge, suggest to me with irresistible force that the complete termination of hostilities and a lasting peace are not only desirable but absolutely essential to the welfare of the Philippines.

The Filipinos have never been dismayed by their weakness, nor have they faltered in following the path pointed out by their fortitude and courage. The time has come, however, in which they find their advance along this path impeded by an irresistible force—a force which while it restrains them yet enlightens the mind and opens another course by presenting to them the cause of peace. This cause has been joyfully embraced by a majority of our fellow countrymen, who are already united around the glorious and sovereign banner of the United States. In this banner they repose their trust in the belief that under its protection our people will attain all the promised liberties which they are even now beginning to enjoy.

The country has declared unmistakably in favour of peace; so be it. Enough of blood; enough of tears and desolation. This wish cannot be ignored by the men still in arms if they are animated by no other desire than to serve their noble people which has thus clearly manifested its will.

So also do I respect this will now that it is known to me, and after mature deliberation resolutely proclaim to the world that I cannot refuse to heed the voice of a people longing for

peace, nor the lamentations of thousands of families yearning to see their dear ones in the enjoyment of the liberty promised by the generosity of the great American nation.

By acknowledging and accepting the sovereignty of the United States throughout the entire Archipelago, as I now do without any reservation whatsoever, I believe that I am serving thee, my beloved country. May happiness be thine!

EMILIO AGUINALDO.

Manila, 19th April, 1901.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO SINGAPORE.

From the Straits papers it appears that it was arranged that there should be a triple guard of honour at Johnston's Pier on the occasion of the Royal landing. The first guard was to consist of 100 Naval bluejackets. The second guard, also of 100, was to be supplied from Royal marines from the *Aurora*, the *Arethusa*, *Algerine*, &c. The third guard was to be supplied by the army in the shape of 100 men of the 16th Madras Native Infantry. The entire Naval guard and probably nearly all the guard from the Royal Marines were recently in action either at the Taku forts, at Tientsin, or with Admiral Seymour's relief expedition that tried to penetrate from Tientsin to Peking.

The British Community in the Colony decided to present a very pretty oxidised and gilded silver casket to H.R.H. the Duke of York. The casket was manufactured by Messrs. Elkington, the well-known silversmiths. The only inscription on the casket is "Presented by the British Subjects of the Colony of the Straits Settlements."

The Chinese of the Federated Malay States were to make a present of a silver screen, mounted on a mahogany stand and set in mahogany, measuring about three inches in height and about sixteen inches across. At the base are four Chinese lions carved in solid mahogany, and on each side, also at the base, are two silver designs of chrysanthemums, inlaid in the mahogany. At the foot of the screen, also set in mahogany, is a wide silver band, on which is inscribed in silver gilded Chinese seal characters the motto "Long life and prosperity."

The screen, itself, of solid silver, is engraved on one side, in Chinese characters, with the text of the address of the Federated Malay States Chinese to H. R. H. during the Town Hall ceremony. On the other side is a handsome design in gilded silver of the pretty Chinese botan flowers, with tastefully intermingled Chinese characters also silver-gilded, denoting the following in English:—"From the Chinese Residents of the Federated Malay States to His Royal Highness, as a token of respect."

THE CITY HALL.

MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

The annual meeting of shareholders in and subscribers to the City Hall was held on Thursday afternoon, under the presidency of the Hon. J. J. Keswick. There were also present the Hon. H. E. Pollock K.C., Mr. B. Layton, Mr. N. A. Siebs, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN having signed the minutes of the last annual meeting, rose and said:

Gentlemen,—Before I submit to you a resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts for the past year it may be of interest if I make a few general remarks in regard to the working of the institution. The season embraced in the report has not been a very successful one financially, the receipts having only exceeded the expenditure by a very small sum, but for this we must not be unthankful as we are able to meet the calls for up-keep, insurance, &c., &c., without incurring a debit balance. The chief falling off in revenue has been in rent of theatre which necessarily varies a good deal. Judging from these and past results I am afraid the City Hall can never be a profitable institution to its proprietors, but the committee feel that its value to the general community is fully appreciated.

I am glad to say that the present season has opened very much more satisfactorily than the preceding one, and although the necessary can-

cellation by the A. D. C. and others of all engagements in February caused a considerable loss of revenue, I am pleased to say that since then the season has been phenomenal both in regard to the number of the performances, and in the receipts of the companies, a result probably due to the temporary increase in the Naval and Military forces, combined with increased local population, and an increased number of visitors.

Your committee estimate that the funds in hand at the end of the season will be sufficient to bear the expense of the internal decorations which I am afraid we must take in hand as soon as possible, as there has been a good deal of wear and tear in the use of the theatre, and also in building, furniture, &c., &c.

The success of the experiment of keeping open the library in the evenings which was commenced in March last year, has more than realised expectations, as is proved by the fact that 9,554 readers visited the library in the evening between 6 and 11 during the 12 months ending the 20th March, 1901. The majority of the readers both in the day time and the evening use the local and home newspapers and magazines which are much appreciated, and regular gifts of periodicals would prove a great boon to this class of readers who probably may have no other opportunity of seeing the magazines and papers. The thanks of the Committee are due to those who have so generously sent papers and periodicals, and on their behalf express our grateful acknowledgment of them.

The free lending collection started by Mr. Pollock is still in its infancy, so to speak, but there are 44 borrowers and any one is eligible as a borrower who can obtain from a ratepayer a guarantee to refund the value of any book lost or damaged. The borrowers are chiefly clerks in various businesses or subordinate officers in the Government service.

The museum calls for no comment. In the absence of any scientific curator, and of any endowment, it is not possible to improve it, and the limited space available is already overcrowded and cannot be increased. The museum continues, however, to have a great attraction to many of our Chinese fellow-townsmen and visitors. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be glad to afford any further information which any of you might consider of interest.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN formally moved that the following report be adopted and passed:—

"There has been no change in the Committee, which consists of the Hon. J. J. Keswick (Chairman), Messrs. H. N. Mody, B. Layton (Hon. Treasurer), and N. A. Siebs, and the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. Mr. H. L. Denny (Secretary, &c.) resigned in June, 1900, after 23 years' service, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley was appointed Secretary, Librarian and Curator in his stead.

"The state of the building.—The building was thoroughly inspected by the Architects, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, in September, 1900, and they report all the main timbers to be in a sound condition. Sundry subsidiary timbers had to be renewed on account of the attacks of white ants, but the damage from this cause was much less than usual. The expenditure on repairs during the 12 months ending 30th June, 1900, amounted to \$2,025.42, including \$1,000 00 for repairing the exterior of the building, mentioned in last year's report. The interior of the Theatre, the halls, staircases and entrance halls require redecoration, and it is hoped that this work will soon be taken in hand.

"Use of the Theatre, &c.—During the twelve months from 1st July, 1899, to 30th June, 1900, the Theatre was engaged by the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club, Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave, Miss J. Waldorf, Madame Kousorah, M. Georges Star, Mr. H. Dallas, the Delroy Company, the Dramatic Companies of several Warships, and others. The St. George's and St. Andrew's Halls were used for concerts and musical entertainments, and the Ball-Room suite was let for several balls. The St. Andrew's Hall and other rooms were as usual placed at the disposal of educational and charitable institutions for examinations, prize distributions and banquets, free of charge.

"The library.—The number of readers and borrowers during the 12 months ending 30th

June, 1900, was 12,280, a very large increase on any previous record. 48 books published in Hongkong have been added to the Library by the Government, of which the majority are missionary pamphlets, and numerous newspapers and other periodicals have been presented by Mr. Pollock, Mr. Siebs, Mr. Layton, the late American Consul General (Mr. Rounseville Wildman), the Committee of the Hongkong Club, and others. The proprietors of the *Gazette* and of the local newspapers are to be thanked for continuing to supply their periodicals gratis. Owing to the generosity of the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. and other friends, a free Lending Collection has recently been added to the Library; the borrowers at present number 43. The Collection comprises only about 430 books, but it is hoped gradually to increase its scope, and gifts of books will be gratefully accepted.

"The Museum has been kept up as usual, want of funds and space preventing its development or improvement. Various birds, snakes and other specimens have been presented to the Museum by Captain Anderson, Dr. Korn, Messrs. Alderton, Drury, Ford, Hayes, Gale, Gray, Newton, Noble, Ho U Ming, Poon Chun San, Wai Poo Shan and others. Captain Wall, of the I.M.S., presented several new specimens of snakes, and devoted much time and skill to examining and renaming the specimens already in the Museum. During the year ending 30th June, 1900, 9,819 Europeans, Americans, and other non-Chinese, and 118,593 Chinese, visited the Museum.

"Accounts.—The balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer on 30th July, 1900, when the accounts up to 30th June, 1900, were closed, was \$2,728.51, as showing a gain on the year's working of \$21.96. There is also a reserve fund consisting of \$13,542.55 on fixed deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, including interest up to 24th June, 1900."

Mr. B. LAYTON seconded the adoption of the report.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

That completed the proceedings and the meeting terminated.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE GAY LORD QUEX."

There was no doubt in the minds of the spectators as they left the Theatre on Saturday night, the 20th inst., that they had just witnessed one at least of the most artistic, if not actually the best performance ever seen in Hongkong. The verdict was, as far as could be judged, universal. *The Gay Lord Quex* is a play whose fame has preceded it to the East, so that all who have not seen it at home were especially anxious to judge its merits for themselves. In consequence there was a full and representative house gathered together on Saturday to add to the triumph of the Brough Company. And it must be said that the triumph was a thorough one, and quite a demonstration followed the fall of the curtain. A most difficult play to interpret, *The Gay Lord Quex* was on Saturday in most able hands, and the result was completely satisfactory. In the third act, the crux of the play, Mr. and Mrs. Brough rose to the full exigencies of the situation and carried the audience with them. The inherent improbability of the termination of this act, as Mr. Pinero has shaped it, was glossed over in the most skilful manner, and in consequence did not jar the feelings. The refined nature of the rendering of the whole play showed how baseless were the strictures of the bigots who attacked *The Gay Lord Quex* on the ground of morals.

To turn to the individual parts, the actor-manager and his wife naturally carried off chief honours in the roles of Quex and Sophy Fullgarney. The restraint and power of Mr. Brough were surely never more admirably illustrated than in his performances on the 20th inst. Quex, as Mr. Pinero created him, hardly seems such a *roué* as he is alleged to be, and it is impossible therefore for any actor to make the part thoroughly convincing. But so natural was Mr. Brough throughout that we were content to accept Quex as an actual character and overlook the want of consistency in his creator. Mrs. Brough sustained the arduous and critical

part of Sophy in masterly fashion. She gave just the right amount of vulgarity which is so hard to gauge. To play Sophy Fullgarney is akin to walking the tight-rope. Mrs. Brough made no slip. Her very costumes were well chosen, the rather garish effect of that which she wears in the second act struck just the right note. Muriel Eden was played by Miss Grace Noble, of whom it can truthfully be said that she was better than the original exponent of the part. She played with no little charm. Miss Temple was a most romantic Duchess of Strood, Miss Rochfort a capital Lady Owbridge, and Miss Thompson a dashing Mr. Jack Eden, most appropriately gowned. Mr. Dartrey was an amusing wreck as Sir Chichester Frayne, Mr. Mario Majeroni a sufficiently unfaithful Captain Bastling, and Mr. Lovell gave to the character of "Valma" just that touch of surface-gentlemanliness which was required. The leading parts were supported in most excellent style by the rest of the Company.

The play was handsomely mounted and the dresses were such that half a column could barely suffice to do justice to their merits. In short, a thoroughly artistic production is the best brief verdict on the play.

The following was the cast of characters on Saturday:—

The Marquess of Quex	Mr. Brough.
Sir Chichester Frayne.....	Mr. Reginald Dartrey.
Captain Bastling	Mr. Mario Majeroni.
"Valma," otherwise Frank Pollitt (a Professional Palmist)	Mr. W. T. Lovell.
The Duchess of Strood	Miss Temple.
Julia, Countess of Owbridge	Miss Rochfort.
Mrs. Jack Eden	Miss Bessie Thompson.
Muriel Eden—(her Sister-in-law)	Miss Grace Noble.
Sophy Fullgarney—(a Manicurist)	Mrs. Brough.
Miss Moon	Miss Gillies Brown.
Miss Huddle	Miss Evelyn Martheze.
Miss Limbird	Miss De Courcy.
Patrons of Miss Fullgarney	Mr. P. Brough,
	Mr. Grattan and Mr. Wilson.
Servants at Fauncey Court	Mr. Hards and
	Mr. McMahon.

"THE MANŒUVRES OF JANE."

The fourth play of the Brough Company's repertory was presented on Tuesday night, the 23rd inst., to a house of a thoroughly representative character and with but few vacant seats in it. Among those present were H.E. Sir Henry Blake, Lady Blake, and suite. Among the audience also might be noticed Mr. John Roberts, the celebrated billiard-player. Naturally after the success of *The Liars* there was great anxiety to see the same author's amusing, if less famous, *Manœuvres of Jane* interpreted by the truly first-class company which made so great a hit with the former play.

The whole presentation of the piece was most admirable. In particular we must single out for praise Mr. Brough (who as Lord Bapchild appeared in quite a new light, with equal success to that which met him in more serious parts), Mrs. Brough, Miss Noble, Mr. W. T. Lovell. It is invidious to stop, and we cannot refrain from calling attention to the capital support given by Misses Thompson, Martheze, and Rochfort, and Messrs. Dartrey, Victor, and Majeroni. Altogether a capital all-round performance was witnessed and a most amusing entertainment provided.

"THE ADVENTURE OF LADY URSULA."

A large audience witnessed the very successful production on Thursday night by the Brough Company of Anthony Hope's charming romantic play *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*. It is perhaps one of the prettiest pieces Mr. Brough has yet produced, being set in the days of our courtly and polite forefathers of the seventeenth century. "The tea-cup times of hood and hoop, and while the patch was worn." It is unnecessary for us to present the plot of the play, as we gave it in yesterday's issue, and those who know, and are forced to admire, the wit and freshness of Anthony Hope's dialogue will readily concede to him the honour and merit due for such a fascinating sketch of the humours and pastimes of those of the gallant period it is intended to represent. The part of Lady Ursula Barrington is taken by Mrs. Brough, and is a clever and vivacious representation of the wayward though plucky sister, anxious to avert the duel. Her part stands

out as the most prominent. Mr. Brough is content to take the smaller character of Dr. Blimboe, giving a finished portrait of that quiet though humorous old gentleman. The part of the lover is assigned to Mr. Lovell and his quiet, dignified and noble representation of an English gentleman of the olden days was splendidly portrayed. He was repeatedly applauded, and he thoroughly deserved the praise bestowed upon him. Miss Temple appeared only in the first and fourth acts, and as Dorothy Fenton she played her part exquisitely, whilst Miss Bessie Thompson filled in the role of the matronly dame with much skill and grace. Mr. Majeroni was excellent as Ursula's brother and Mr. Percy Brough was very successful as Castleton. It was indeed a pleasure to sit and watch the acting, to admire the courtly manners and picturesque costumes, and enjoy the sparkling wit and humour of the dialogue. The acting throughout was most excellent.

CONCERT AT KOWLOON INSTITUTE.

On Tuesday evening the Institute of the Missions to Seamen was the scene of a most enjoyable concert, and the sailors and soldiers, together with a number of civilians who crowded the concert room, had a musical treat of a rare order. The concert, which was given by the members of the St. John's Cathedral Choir, was arranged by Mr. A. Cunningham (the Hon. Secretary of the Choir). The musical bill of fare, bright, varied and thoroughly well rendered, was such as to please the most fastidious taste. The vocalists, in spite of the great heat, were in good voice, and their rendering of the parts allotted to them drew forth long and continued rounds of applause, whilst if all the encores demanded had been given the proceedings would hardly have terminated before midnight. The programme opened with a pianoforte duet by Miss King and Miss Chunyut, and these ladies, reinforced by Miss Leykum, at a later stage, gave a pianoforte trio in so brilliant a manner that they were loudly recalled. Miss Chunyut sang "The Promise of Life" so sweetly that the "Jacks" insisted upon a second song; this being given in the second half of the programme they still required an encore and got it. Miss Leykum delighted the audience with a sympathetic rendering of the song "Sunshine and Rain," and together with Miss Chunyut sang the duet "O that we two were Maying!" Masters E. and W. Hagen carried away the audience with the duet "Sons of the Sea," and gave as an encore the sweet old duet "What are the Wild Waves Saying?" Barnby's beautiful setting of Tennyson's lyrical gem "Sweet and Low" was given by a quartette party consisting of Messrs. L. Lammert, G. W. Coster, Masters E. and W. Hagen. Mr. Cunningham, who sang "Thursday" and "Jack's the Boy," gave great delight by singing in response to a vociferous demand, "The Skippers of St. Ives." Mr. Terrill sang "The Lighthouse Keeper" and "The Lads in Red" with such verve that the audience would not be satisfied until he gave them another song. "The Admiral's Broom" sung by Mr. Marshall, and "The Distant Shore," sung by Mr. Coster, were greeted with rounds of applause, whilst it is the merest truism to say that Mr. G. P. Lammert's rendering of "The Death of Nelson," and "Since first I met thee" was such that in each case the audience refused to be comforted until they saw his face on the platform again. We understand that another concert is to be given by the Choir on Wednesday next in Kowloon for the purpose of raising funds for the work of the Missions to Seamen, and we feel sure that it will attract a large audience.—*Contributed.*

The statement that the Governor General of Netherlands-India has been nominated a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Osmanie by the Sultan of Turkey is considered significant, as indicating the friendly relations existing between the Sultan and the Governor General. The Achinese, in their long struggle with the Dutch, have frequently averred that the Sultan of Turkey would eventually send, as the head of the Mussalman religion, assistance in the shape of arms, money and men, to Sumatra. Such faint hopes as may have existed of this are doomed to disappear now after the bestowal by the Sultan of so marked a favour.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 22nd April.

H. E. TAO MU'S PROTEST.

The protest of the Viceroy of Canton against the Russia-Chinese Convention, which was sent to the Emperor at Hsian, is to the following effect: "If we consent to and sign the Russian Convention, as at present is so much talked of, every Power with which we have made a Treaty will in future exact from us more territorial concession. The Missionary troubles which occurred throughout the breadth and length of China from Chekiang and the Yangtze-kiang to Kwangtung and Kwangai will multiply by thousands, and the Flowery Kingdom handed down to us by our holy ancestors will become the scene of bloodshed and murder and be sliced to pieces. The railways and mines will ultimately pass into foreign hands, and China cannot keep her territory in its entirety."

A NEW WORK ON THE CANTON RIVER.

Permission to fill up the embankments along the north and west of the Canton river, beginning from Wongsha, has been granted to Cheung Chan Fan. His name was mentioned in the Canton and Hankow railway scheme as a fit and proper person to undertake such work. Lo Sin Ping and Ho Fu Cho also applied for a like permission but failed in their application.

A GOLD MINE DISCOVERED.

A gold mine is said to have been discovered in a place lying between the district of Kwong Ning, Sin Hing prefecture, and Wai Chap district, Kwangai. The natives there could not get much out of it for want of proper machinery to dig up the ore; so upon representation to the Viceroy, H. E. has ordered an official, by name Chan Kai-yiin, to proceed thither to report thereon, and make arrangements to buy machinery from abroad.

NEW CEMENT COMPANY.

Special privileges have been granted for a period of 15 years to the Tung Yik Company, of which Fung How Kwong and others are proprietors, to manufacture cement, bricks and tiles at Sam Sui.

THE "SUN-CHOW" WRECK.

With reference to the foundering of the steamlaunch *Sunchow* caused by the *Hung Fei* coming into collision with her in the Wong Kong river at Sin Hing, when many lives were lost, the committees of the four hospitals, Oi Yuk Tong, Kwong Chai, Kwong Yan and Shung Ching, have undertaken to search for the dead bodies, and provide coffins for their burial. Leung Yan-shan, alias Leung You, the proprietor of the *Sunchow*, went to the hospitals and stated that there had been lost over a hundred dollars passage-money, the gold and silver ornaments of his concubine, as well as a lot of money and clothing belonging to passengers; and if they were found they might be handed over to the Commissioner of Customs to be returned to the relatives of the deceased. Thereupon the committee of the hospitals presented a petition to the Commissioner, and the latter advised them to number and ticket the dead bodies when taken up, with a description of the quantity of money and jewelry belonging to each, so that relatives of the deceased might go and claim them.

A PAWN SHOP ROBBERY.

About the beginning of this month an extensive robbery took place in the Sun-Ui district, in which several large pawn-shops were robbed by two hundred and more thieves, all armed; and the property lost amounted to 20,000 taels. It appeared that one man was arrested, and the gentry of that place presented a petition to the Nam Hoi Magistrate, stating that he was a good man and begging for his release. Thereupon the Nam Hoi official sent the petition up to the Viceroy, and His Excellency having had information that the gentry were harbouring thieves and receiving stolen goods, had eighteen of them; all bearing official titles, degraded.

Later.

DAMAGES CLAIMED IN THE RECENT WRECK.

Leung Yanshan, alias Leung You, has proceeded to the Nam Hoi and Pun-yu Magistrates' yamen and taken an action against the owner of s.s. *Hung Fei* for damages to the amount of

over \$20,000. The dead bodies have been discovered, taken up and photographed by the Kwong Yan hospital.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 21st April.

A STEAM LAUNCH ACCIDENT AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

For a considerable time a great many steam-launches, foreign and Chinese, have been plying between this port and different riverine stations, a business which, I believe, is a very remunerative one. On Friday last, while the British launch *Hong An*, owned by Mr. J. Watts, of Hongkong, was on her way to Tatapon, a place about 15 miles distant from here owing to the shallowness of the water at some of the places she got on a mudbank. At the time the launch carried a large number of passengers, and with a view to lightening her, so as to get her off the bank, three sampans were hauled alongside and all the passengers discharged into them. This procedure had the desired effect and the launch soon got off. The passengers then commenced re-embarking, but it so happened that one of the sampans didn't manage to reach the launch in time and the latter departed to her destination. Those so left behind naturally felt greatly exasperated, and when they eventually got to Tatapon proceeded on board the steamlaunch and, giving vent to their outraged feelings, demolished everything they laid their hands on. When they considered themselves satisfied they left the launch. As good luck, or otherwise would have it, two of the crowd did not make their escape hastily enough, and were consequently brought down to Swatow. On their arrival here the two Chinese were handed over to the Taopozee and the circumstances reported to the British Consul.

THE CHINESE BENT ON VENGEANCE.

When the last stage of the incident got to be known, those at Tatapon resolved not to allow the said steamlaunch to continue running. On her arrival the following day, the villagers repaired on board her and did further damage; they gave the crew a sound beating (one was especially badly mauled about), and last of all prevented the launch from returning to Swatow. On receipt of the news here, the matter was straightway brought to the notice of the British Consul, who in turn made an energetic protest to the Chao Yang Hsien, demanding the prompt release of the launch.

THE FINAL ISSUE AWAITED.

There is no doubt the launch will be soon, if she is not already, restored to her owner, but in any case it just shows the far-reaching consequences of a slight accident of the nature described. In the interests of foreigners, it is hoped the Chinese will be made to pay dearly for indulging in such high-handed action as this whereby a British steamlaunch was made the victim.

Swatow, 22nd April.

SUPINENESS OF THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES.

Since the British Consul wired to the Chao Yang Hsien, over two days ago, about the outrage described above, this official has not even as yet set about to effect the release of the vessel by deputing his men for that purpose. The Chinese owners of the launch approached the nearest official of Tatapon, the Chao-king-Zse, prevailing on him to use his powers in freeing the vessel, but this dignitary staunchly refused any interference, on the plea of having received no instructions from his immediate superior, the Chao Yang Hsien.

Swatow, 23rd April.

A CORRECTION.

It appears that the British Consul did not wire to the Chao Yang Hsien, but to the Taotai, the head official residing at Chowchowfu. This latter under ordinary circumstances issues his instructions to his subordinate, the Chao Yang Hsien, who was to have seen to the prompt release of the launch. This official neglected to perform the duty entrusted to him and the launch is still in the hands of the Chinese.

The Manila and Dagupan Railways claim \$2,300,000 from the U. S. Government for damages sustained to the line during the war.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 8th April.

CONTINUED FRENCH ROWDYISM.

The chief feature of the week has been the continued rowdiness of the French. This has become so persistent and so serious as to threaten to impair the *entente*. Making every allowance for national bias and discounting heavily all one-sided accounts that reach us, the conclusion is still that only one side is to be blamed—our Gallic allies in the ranks; for it is to be noted that the conduct of the officers has throughout been unimpeachable. The French privates are suffering from an acute attack of Anglophobia, as occult in its origin as it is disagreeable in its effects. A week ago Lieut. Barnett of the Sixth Burmahs was cut down by a sword slash, in the main thoroughfare between the two British Concessions. He was most gratuitously attacked by a crowd of seven men, but had the satisfaction of giving one of them a heavy blow with a stick, before he was seized from behind, thrown down and severely wounded by a sword attack. Fortunately one of his assailants dropped his hat, which led to his subsequent arrest, and, let us hope, his punishment. The men of the Sixty-first are quite out of hand and nobody in private more bewails the fact than other French officers. Only six days ago at the Station the French guard disobeyed their corporal, filled their magazine rifles, and sallied out to avenge a fancied insult (the Indian sentries had stopped one Frenchman abusing and illtreating a coolie). Blood would have inevitably been shed but for the accidental appearance of their own commanding officer, who at that moment had to leave the dinner table: he came across his own men bent on honour's cause as they called it though others deemed it murder. Needless to say, the men were at once put under arrest. It is to be clearly understood that this mania is confined only to Tientsin; in Peking the troops are far apart, but are mutually courteous when they meet; at Shanhaikwan they are the best of friends, and so they are at all the minor stations where both are located.

AFFAIRS OTHERWISE CALM.

The Russian affair, the disagreement about the land at the Railway Station, is in abeyance; and barring the attitude of the French soldiery our local horizon is clear.

AMERICANS LEAVING.

The American force, with the exception of a Legation guard of 150 men at Peking, is making every preparation to leave Chihli, and has already advertised the sale of all its superfluous stores. Like the Australians it will leave with the hearty goodwill and the esteem of everybody. Nothing could have been more satisfactory than the good-comradeship which has marked their relations in all ranks with our people; "brother-in-arms" is the exact phrase for it. There is also a report that the French and Russians contemplate large withdrawals of their forces in the North in the next few days.

PEKING NEWS.

The political situation has not, as far as is known, developed one jot; and wise observers have given up speculating on the matter. I feel sure that the extension of the Legations which is going on all the time, quite apart from the views of the Chinese, is a bigger question than most folk imagine in the Manchu mind; it will be a very bitter pill for them to swallow, and as much as anything retards their return. Never again will Christendom allow itself to be at the mercy of ignorant and fanatical foes, and if fortresses there must be in the Capital it is to be in our hands. The Railway is at present being extended from the outer gate of the Temple of Heaven to the wall adjoining the Chinese and Tartar Cities, between the Water Gate and the Hata Men. At present the line is not going through the wall, though the latter is to be cut for the convenience of passengers. The British troops this week in Peking give a grand athletic and military tournament on the Indian scale; the affair is to last four days and there is a special camp and mess for visitors, civil as well as military.

BRITISH CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION.

There is a good deal of criticism here at the constitution of the Legation Committee for investigating British claims. I think I mentioned before that it is composed of Mr. Tower, the First Secretary, and Messrs. Campbell and Jamieson of the Consular Service. As to ability and impartiality, the Committee is a very strong affair, but Tientsin is of opinion that a home barrister of wide commercial experience should have a place on it, as many of the questions on which it will have to decide involve complex trade matters and crucial points in commercial law. It is now supposed that the gross claims will not be far short of two millions sterling; this of course only refers to British subjects.

DR. IRWIN'S DEATH.

Tientsin on Good Friday lost in Dr. Andrew Irwin one of its oldest residents and most esteemed citizens. As a man and a doctor the deceased gentleman commanded boundless respect, and better still, confidence and affection. He was one of the pioneers of Western medicine among the Chinese and was for years an intimate friend of Li Hung-chang, whom he accompanied to Europe on the occasion of his famous mission. Dr. Irwin leaves a widow and one child. Their departure will leave a gap in our social circle that can never be adequately filled. The funeral took place on Easter Sunday and was attended by all sorts and conditions of men, affording most striking testimony to the unique position the good doctor held in the hearts of the native as well as in the affectionate regard of our very cosmopolitan community.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 16th April.

COMMISSARY SCANDALS DWINDLE.

After all the talk and noise that have been made over the commissary scandals it begins to look as though a mountain has been made out of a mole-hill. The busybodies of Manila have stirred up a tempest in a tea-pot and it is only a question of time until the whole thing blows over. Only the preliminary court-martial concerning the non-commissioned officers have been held and the trials of Captain Read, the Assistant Depot Commissary, and Lieutenant Boyer will not be completed for several days, but as the investigations proceed the sensations subside. It has been stated on the highest authority that \$20,000 will cover the entire steal and where millions are concerned and the daily transactions often run up into five figures the matter is very trivial. According to present indications, in the worst event it cannot mean more than the dismissal or imprisonment of a few enlisted men and two or three officers.

The arrest of Mr. Pitt of the firm of Thos. Evans & Co. without the privilege of bonds caused a good deal of comment and talk in business circles; but after two days he was released on putting up a two thousand dollar bond. Mr. Pitt's case has not yet come to trial and it is possible that the matter may be allowed to drop. In the meantime the impression is spreading that Mr. Pitt is the victim of circumstances and an army officer who borrowed money on the strength of Mr. Pitt's generosity, and finally when the limit had been reached and security was demanded against more loans, the officer deposited fifty cases of bacon, government bacon as it happened, in a room adjoining Mr. Pitt's office. The finding of this bacon led to the arrest, and its presence has not yet been explained before the authorities.

AGUINALDO STILL SECLUDED.

Aguinaldo still hangs his hat at the Palace in Malacanán and sees only a few friends and advisers. General McArthur refuses to allow newspaper men to see him until important matters which are pending are settled. In view of a lack of news the local papers are struggling along with a lot of mistaken information and a good many wrong impressions have been foisted on the public. The much talked-of Aguinaldo manifesto is believed to be now in the hands of the interpreters, and after this is out much more will be known of the interesting guest of the Governor-General. On

account of the mystery which surrounds Aguinaldo and the seclusion in which he is kept, the rumour is going among the Spanish and native classes that the recent capture is not Aguinaldo but some "fake" who is being used to bring about the surrender of the numerous guerrilla bands and small insurgent forces which are still scattered over the country. There is no way of remedying this at present unless the ex-general is placed at the mercy of the papers, and the military authorities refuse to do this. Was there ever a city that desired civil rule more than Manila does? I think not. Ask the long strained newspapers, and there will be no doubt about it.

COMMISSION'S SUCCESSFUL SOUTHERN TRIP.

The Civil Commission is still in the southern islands and to-day they are organising the city and island of Cebu. During the month that the Commissioners have been in the south they have accomplished a great amount of important work. In a majority of the islands the people have been fairly launched on life under civil government. The deep interest and widespread enthusiasm which have been manifest at the public meetings held in the various cities are very encouraging and furnish the brightest of prospects. The Commission is highly pleased with the result of the investigations and the more its members become acquainted with the country, the more satisfied they are that the time has arrived for the beginnings of civil rule. The insurrection is almost forgotten in many of the southern islands and trade is springing up in all parts. Even the conservative Moros of Sulu and Mindanao are beginning to find out that the Americans are good customers, and intercourse and communication exist in many places where such conditions were never possible under the Spaniards. As the Commission visited the various American garrisons in the Mohammedan country, Sultans, dattos and sub-dattos came in from places many miles distant to meet the representatives of American civil rule. Several of the pagan tribes living about the great volcano of Mount Apo spent the day in the town of Davao and all the chiefs gave testimony before the Commissioners. It was most pleasing to hear these savage, primitive people describe their relations with the army. In almost every case they said that they had never known more peaceful times, and the most that they could ask for was the continuance of the present conditions. This speaks well for the soldiers, and they merit every word of it.

CENTRAL CIVIL GOVERNMENT NEXT JULY.

The Commission will return to Manila about the first week of May and after clearing up the work which has accumulated during their absence they will take the field again and organise the provinces of northern Luzon. About the beginning of July we may look for the establishment of a central civil government in Manila, with Judge Taft as Governor, and a legislative council composed of Americans and Filipinos. Manila is ready for it, the whole country is as ready as it is likely to be for a long time under present management, and the sooner civil rule begins the better it will be for the islands. Almost every interest demands the subordination of the military to its proper place. After three years of hard and successful work its labours have been almost completed, and the time has come for the civil authorities to exercise again supreme power.

It is possible that a large number of acres of arable land at Taipo will shortly be the property of a Chinese syndicate. They intend to cultivate it in three or four different lots, and have already made arrangements for importing the latest designed ploughing machinery. A large proportion of the capital necessary has been subscribed, and it is said a Shanghai capitalist is the chief promoter of the scheme. We have made enquiries, and find that the venture is the result of the report of the Food Supply Commission, and that the idea is to cultivate the land and supply the Hongkong market with potatoes, cabbages, &c. For the conveyance of the products to the Hongkong market a number of launches and junks will be employed, and a good return upon the capital invested is anticipated.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the P. & T. Times of the 13th inst.:

The U.S. troops expect to leave Tientsin about the end of this month.

The Japanese are building barracks extensively in their Settlement at Tientsin.

The Imperial Troops of the 4th Brigade are under orders to return to India, and will leave early next month.

Boxers are being beheaded by the Chinese officials in many large towns in this Province, where they are pretty well discredited.

A Chinese newspaper has been established in Kiaochow by the Germans, and Yuan Shikai has distributed 500 copies among the officials.

Chin Shim, a prominent Manchu official, has left Peking for Hsian with a detailed report of the state of the City and Palaces; and Pekingese believe that the return of the Court is probable some time in June.

A very unique presentation has reached Mrs. Bellingham from H. M. S. *Terrible* in acknowledgment of her services to wounded members of their crew when in the Gordon Hall, Tientsin. The gift is a perfect and exquisitely finished model in silver of the Ladysmith gun—which was mounted with such good effect here—on an ebony stand, and bears a neat little inscription, expressing the indebtedness of the men for Mrs. Bellingham's kindly attention.

Subsequent enquiry has revealed the fact that Mr. Stonehouse was not murdered by design, and that his death was due in some measure to the Chinese of the district having been recently victimised by unscrupulous foreigners and Chinese who had been extorting money from the villagers. The gang who murdered Mr. Stonehouse killed three of these foreigners and three of the Chinese with them about a month previous to Mr. Stonehouse's death, and nothing very serious happening, they probably thought the lives of wandering foreigners might be taken with impunity. The people of these districts appear to be generally well armed and ready for any mischief going. The chiefs have not been arrested, but they are known, and one of them appears to be a man who was unfortunately liberated from the Chinese prison by a German force some time ago, and who has since been doing a great deal of mischief.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the [opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

18th April.

SIR,—All parties, I think, should be grateful to Mr. Michie for the judicious and impartial tone with which he treated the subject of his instructive lecture. If the missionary question is to be discussed, as he says it must, it is greatly to be desired that it be done in the moderate and impartial method of which he gives the example. May I be pardoned for taking exception, in this connection, to certain strong expressions in your own valuable columns, where certain practices of some bodies of missionaries—practices which may indeed be worthy of condemnation—are qualified as simply "vicious" and "disreputable"?

Missionaries in particular will be grateful to Mr. Michie for his clear testimony to the fact, "that the Christian religion, as such, has never provoked the Chinese Government or people to acts of violence; and that their real objection to the propaganda has been, and is, primarily political, and only incidentally religious." The difficulties surrounding missionary work are manifold and complex, and it is not easy to get at the bottom of them and to say just how such difficulties might be best overcome. In the practical solution of them, no doubt many mistakes have been committed, and it is well that mistaken methods be brought to light. However, exaggeration will not help the cause of truth, and even Mr. Michie is not quite free from exaggeration. I should say, as when he says, for instance, that the aim of Roman Catholic missionaries is to "convert the population of China into French citizens."

Mr. Michie's reference to the missions under the Mongol dynasty is interesting and instructive. Those were palmy days for foreigners in China, when not missionaries only, but even the "globe trotters" of those times, could bear such testimony as that of the old Moor, Ibn Batuta: "China is the safest, as well as the pleasantest, of all the regions on the earth for a traveller." It is well known that flourishing missions existed in those days, which disappeared upon the advent to power of the exclusive superstitious and narrow-minded Mings. May not the peace and the prosperity enjoyed by the missions in those days be attributed to the efficient and liberal-minded government under the great Khan and his successors? And perhaps here we might find the solution of the missionary question of our day. Give China an efficient government, assure the people a just and equitable administration in the provinces, so that there may be no reason for looking to foreigners for protection, no hope of practising injustices through the favour of foreigners gained, let us say, under false pretences; then, if the missionary question does disappear, or does not lose most of its troublesome and disagreeable features, we may be able at least to fix the blame more definitely upon certain missionary methods. It can scarcely be said that missionary work has had a fair chance in China since the beginning of the persecution in the 18th century, to which Mr. Michie refers. It would be much to claim that, among so many missionary bodies, of such different views and methods, there have been no abuses, however well-intentioned we may suppose missionaries to be. But considering the unfavourable circumstances in which missionary work is, and has been, carried on, we might abstain from passing too severe a judgment upon certain provisional methods. If the outcome of the present crisis in China were to be the establishment of a really good and efficient government in the empire, the missionary question might regulate itself, or at least it would be easier to discover abuses and remedy them.

Mr. Michie attributes the origin of the persecution in the 18th century to a Jesuit plot to dethrone the Emperor and put up a usurper. The persecution began under Yung-ching, within a few days after his accession to the throne. Mr. Michie may refer to the troubles at court, before the death of Kang-hi, concerning the succession. Those troubles were of a serious character, but I do not think the slightest reliable evidence can be produced that the Jesuits had anything to do with them. That the Jesuits did not plot against Yung-ching after his accession, there is evidence sufficient in the fact that they were retained at his court as astronomers during his whole reign.

SAM-PA-TS'I.

[We may point out to our correspondent that what we described as "vicious" was the principle upheld by Western arms in China that the life of a foreign preacher can and must be paid for in money or land for his country's benefit; and as "disreputable" the policy of the European Powers who are willing to use their missionary countrymen as political agents. We did not actually apply the terms in question to missionary practices, though we cannot see that had we so characterised a willingness on the parts of professed evangelists to lend themselves to such schemes, such terms would have been unjustifiable.—Ed. D.P.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

22nd April.

SIR,—In his lecture last week, Mr. Michie could have mentioned a few more salient facts showing the intolerance, intrigues, and disgraceful conduct of the missionaries. A French bishop, aided by some Portuguese, attempted to rob the coffins of the Korean kings because they contained gold. They escaped unpunished! On the 17th March, 1900 (if I remember rightly) you published an extract from a letter foretelling the great rebellion and disorder in China. A few weeks later a missionary sent a protest to your paper, denying that the missionaries had provoked any disorder. Subsequent events proved that the first letter was correct.

The only way to secure a durable peace in China is for the Great Powers to withdraw official protection from the missionaries. China should claim a big indemnity from the Pope and from some of the Great Powers and send missionaries of her various sects to Europe and America. The behaviour of the Christian missionaries in China could not be tolerated in any of the most democratic states of South America. It is degrading to European civilisation. The missionaries, so far from helping, are indirectly, by their blameful proceedings, setting the Chinese against Europeans and hindering enterprises. The numerous Christian sects are inimical to each other, and only agree in one point, to plunder and ruin China. The greatest blunder that the Great Powers could commit would be partition of that Empire. There will then be incessant intrigues and frequent wars amongst those Powers, who will have to keep big armies and navies in the Far East.—Yours, etc.,

OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 25th April, 1901.

SIR,—Is it not strange that in the recent discussion of the personnel of the missionary bodies in China, the question of moral fitness has been left out of account?

First of all, what is morality? It is surely not merely the "technical morality" enjoined in the 6th or 7th commandment of Western nations, which, as we must sorrowfully admit, is compatible with much that is radically wrong in conduct. It has been laid down by modern science that morality is threefold in its nature, and consists in due regard for

- (1) One's self;
- (2) One's offspring;
- (3) One's fellow-creatures.

It is obvious from this that unmarried and childless persons, male and female, are unable to attain to complete morality, their sympathies under sub-head (2) not having had scope for development; and if we assume that only men and women of the best type should be sent out as missionaries, it becomes desirable to carefully exclude the childless from the field.

Objection has been made to missionaries taking their families into the interior of China, and this undoubtedly results in hardship to individuals; but as a general missionary question there can be little doubt that men of the broadest sympathies are to be found amongst those with families, and it is to the latter that we must look for the best results.—Yours, etc.,

HODIE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

24th April.

SIR,—Your "Occasional Correspondent" of 23rd inst. doubtless knows "the only way to secure a durable peace" as well as many other matters, which he enumerates in his comprehensive condemnation of missionaries, but the extraordinary way in which he starts with his "salient facts," betraying as it does an inaccuracy and sad want of knowledge in dealing with the past, rather lessens the confidence which one would like to have in a person who undertakes to set forth the future.

I happened to be in Shanghai at the time the episode he mentions of the Korean coffins happened, and deny the truth of his absurd account of it: the rather imaginative story of a Catholic Missionary from Corea—which at that time was an unknown country—of some royal coffins near the Capital no doubt led to the expedition, which was conducted by two residents of Shanghai, an American and a Belgian, neither of them missionaries. They went in a chartered steamer with a hired crew of Manilamen and found the tombs, but had no means of breaking into them. (I have since learned that dynamite would have to be employed to do it.) They were discovered and attacked and had to retreat with, I think, some loss. To put the thing as a missionary misdoing is foolish. The nebulous mention he makes of some "great rebellion," etc., in China, no doubt proves to himself that missionaries are very bad,

but it is a dark saying to the uninitiated. I have been many years in China and of course have heard the perennial "missionary question" frequently discussed, the same old "chestnuts" handed out time after time and the same cut and dried opinions as to the utter uselessness and mischief of missionaries and their work repeated *ad nauseam*, and I have long ago arrived at one conclusion at all events, that is, that the people who descend on the subject with the most "cocksureness" and are most decisive in their condemnation of the whole thing, are mostly—or I may say always—those who know the least about it, their views are most probably taken from some distorted or irrelevant circumstance, something some one has told them, or some missionary that they have met and did not like, but facts or accurate knowledge of the matter are foreign to them.

If people who are inwardly driven to ventilate their views would take the trouble to look up the A.B.C. of the question, and if they do start to set down "facts" be sure that they are really such and correctly stated, we should possibly be spared such displays of silly self-sufficiency as your "Occasional Correspondent" has treated us to.—Yours, etc.,

C. V. L.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN VICTOR MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Office of the Prince Christian Victor

Memorial, Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.,

March 14th, 1901.

SIR,—Will you allow us to appeal for assistance in carrying out the following project which was organised towards the close of last year?

The sympathy evinced by our lamented and revered Queen Victoria in all the personal sorrows of her people arising from the South African War had awakened a warm and grateful response in the hearts of the public, and it was then resolved to give expression to this all-pervading sentiment, and in some measure respectfully to reciprocate the sympathy which had been shown, by establishing a permanent memorial of the grandson of the Queen, Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, who died in the service of his country in South Africa.

Although the circumstances under which this tribute would have been paid are so sadly altered, the love and gratitude of the nation are only intensified, and the fact that our beloved Sovereign took the greatest interest in the proposed memorial, and that it was one of her last wishes that it should be a success, not only makes it impossible to withdraw the plan of a collection, which might otherwise seem inopportune at the present time, but adds a pathos to the appeal which cannot fail to ensure its favourable reception throughout the country.

It is proposed that the memorial shall take the form of a fund for founding and endowing beds in the Princess Christian Cottage Homes for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors. This would be in harmony with the spirit and aims of the young Prince, who always had the interest of soldiers at heart.

Donations and offers of assistance in collecting may be sent to the Hon. Organising Secretaries, Office of the Prince Christian Victor Memorial, Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W., or to the Memorial Fund at Messrs Lloyd's Bank, 16, St. James' Street, S.W. Donations and collections will be acknowledged in the Press.—Yours, etc.,

(Sd.) ROBERTS, F.M.,

President of the General Committee.

(Sd.) REDVERS BULLER, General,

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

According to a Japanese paper, the various undertakings which have been carried on since 1897 by the Japanese Government in connection with the establishment of a new Admiralty station at Maisuru, on the coast opposite the eastern shore of Siberia were almost completed at the end of last year. Work on the structures is now proceeding so rapidly that the new Admiralty port may be formally opened early in November.

REVIEW.

The Newspaper Press Directory for 1901; 56th Annual Issue; London, C. Mitchell & Co.

THIS is a case of an old publication being kept on the foremost files of time. Besides being a newspaper directory for the whole world it forms a gazetteer of the British Empire, giving especial attention to trade statistics. The Colonial Supplement contains an able article by Mr. Ernest E. Williams on the chances of an Imperial Customs Union. He brings forward many arguments to prove that there is a pressing need for this, and concludes:—

"It is therefore particularly foolish to talk, as opponents of the Customs Union do talk, of imperilling our big foreign trade by cultivating our small Colonial trade. As foreign industrial development increases our trade in foreign countries must inevitably wane, at the same time that the Colonial market is growing, and at the same time as our trade in that market will also be growing, if we secure it by the establishment of a Customs Union." There are also articles on The Impending Australian Tariff, Import Trade of Australasia, Import Trade of South Africa, The New Colonies, The Rhodesian Outlook, Import Trade of the West Indies, Import Trade of India, Canada, with Trade Statistics, &c., &c.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 19th April.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

THE OUTBREAK IN THE GAOL.

Mak Su, Ip Nam and Yang Tuk were indicted for attempted murder in the Victoria Gaol last month.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., the Acting Attorney General, prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, and Capt. the Hon. F. H. May watched the proceedings on behalf of the police.

The following jury were empanelled:—Messrs. Heinrich Carl Oldorf, Saul Abdulla Joseph, Albrecht Wilhelm Schellass, Adolphe Maria Barradas, Philip Moellar, George Richardson, and Robert Trevelyan Head.

Counsel for the prosecution in addressing the jury said that the prisoners were indicted on two counts, one being that of wounding Mr. Craig, with intent to murder, and on the second count he was charged with wounding Mr. Craig with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. The facts shortly were that on the morning of 27th March last about ten minutes to ten Mr. Craig was inspecting the lower yard of the jail in company with Mr. Pierpoint. The three men in the dock were prisoners in the gaol, and were working in the shed picking oakum, sitting on the south side. After visiting the yard, and when Mr. Craig was about to enter the shed, he felt a blow from behind. He immediately turned round and found himself confronted with the first and second prisoners who had weapons in their hands. He felt a blow on the head with a knife, and as he turned round he noticed the third prisoner entering the shed. He also had a weapon in his hands and was evidently making for the assistance of the other two prisoners. But before much damage could be done the three prisoners were secured, and the weapons taken away from them. Two of these weapons were in the shape of knives and the third was a plane iron, but neither one of them belonged to the gaol—they had evidently been taken in surreptitiously, for they did not form part of the implements used in the gaol. These three men were charged at the Magistracy on the 2nd April, and they admitted the charge. Yesterday they had pleaded guilty on both counts in the indictment, but said they wished to call certain evidence with a view of showing that they were ill-treated in the gaol. Under His Lordship's advice they withdrew the plea of guilty, and the evidence they wished to call had been brought down from the gaol.

Robert Henry Craig said he had been in his present position as Assistant Superintendent of the gaol for two years come May. Before that he was chief warden for four years. Before

that again he was for over fifteen years in the Imperial services at home as discipline warden.

Mr. Pollock: So you have had about 20 years gaol service altogether.

Mr. Craig answered in the affirmative and continuing his evidence said that on the day in question he was inspecting the lower yard in the gaol accompanied by the chief warden, Mr. Pierpoint. The three prisoners were picking oakum.

His Lordship asked how many men there were in the yard at the time.

Mr. Craig replied between 20 and 30, all of whom were engaged in picking oakum. The first prisoner was in the gaol for piracy, and had to undergo ten years imprisonment, hard labour. He was convicted on July 18th, 1900. The second prisoner was in for stealing from a dwelling house, and was sentenced on January 18th, 1899, to 14 years. The third prisoner was in for three years for forgery. He (witness) was going from the lower yard into the workshop when he was struck from behind on the back of the head, and while defending himself from the two prisoners he saw the third prisoner coming in from the south side of the shop. He received a stab on the shoulder, and one on the head from the first and second defendants. He was not struck by the third defendant because of the timely arrival of some warders. He was making for him (Mr. Craig) but was stopped by one of the assistant warders. Here the witness produced his uniform coat showing the cuts in it which had been made by the thrusts with the knives. He was sure the second prisoner struck him. He was attended by Dr. Thompson but had not yet sufficiently recovered.

Cross examined by the first prisoner.

Will you tell the court what quantity of rice is allowed by the Government to each prisoner daily?—It depends upon the class of labour imposed.

Is it a standing rule of the Victoria Gaol that the warders and Assistant Superintendent are at liberty to assault a prisoner at any time in the day?—No, my Lord.

Are there a number of bells all over the building in the Victoria Gaol for prisoners to pull at when they desire to make complaints to the warders if anything goes wrong? The bells are fixed by regulations, my Lord, and the prisoners are allowed to use them to make any complaints they have.

His Lordship: If you can find the regulation as to complaints please read it out.

Witness: It is No 236. It says that prisoners who have any complaint to make regarding the diet furnished to them, or who wished their diet to be weighed or measured to ascertain whether they were supplied with the authorised quantity, should make their complaint immediately their diet was handed to them, and it should be weighed or measured in their presence, and in that of the officer deputed for that purpose. Repeated complaints of a groundless nature made by any prisoner under colour of that rule with the evident purpose of giving annoyance or trouble, should be treated as a breach of prison discipline, and the offender would be liable to punishment accordingly.

Do you remember that on one occasion I rang the bell, and made a complaint about the food—that it was not enough?

Witness: He complained on Dec. 24th, 1900, of having no oil in his rice, and he complained again on 17th September, 1900, of not having sufficient food.

His Lordship—And what was the result of that complaint?

Witness—It was received too late. He received his food on one day and made the complaint on the next. The complaint was noted. He complained also, my Lord, on the 17th September, 1900, about not getting enough food.

His Lordship—Was that complaint attended to?

Witness—The reply was made that he was receiving regulation diet.

The first prisoner—On the day of the assault did I not make a complaint that I got 14 ounces instead of 26 ounces of rice?—No, my Lord. He did not make any complaint.

Did you not, after I made this complaint, order me to be flogged with a dozen cuts?

His Lordship—You have no power to order a flogging?

Witness—Yes, on the order of the Captain Superintendent of Police.

Prisoner—In addition to this flogging, did you not put me on crank work for four weeks?—No.

His Lordship—Tell him Mr. Craig is not at the head of affairs.

Prisoner—Yes, my Lord, but this was done.

Witness—They were reported by three of the warders for wilfully creating a disturbance, and using insulting language towards an officer. They were brought before Captain May and sentenced to receive twelve strokes.

Mr. Pollock—Was that officer you, Mr. Craig?

Witness—No; it was another officer.

His Lordship—That has nothing at all to do with this case. I am not going to have him take up the time of the Court with nonsense. Tell him that what we want is any injustice done before the stabbing.

The prisoner—I have a witness here to prove that this witness ill-treated me after the assault.

His Lordship—I have nothing to do with that at all. That is a matter of prison discipline. He must complain to the Captain Superintendent of Police.

Prisoner—Is it not the usual thing in gaol that each prisoner is allowed 32 yards of cloth to make a jacket?—No, my Lord.

Is it not prison regulations that each prisoner is entitled to sixteen ounces of raw rice per diem?—Twenty-four with hard labour, divided into three meals.

Then why did you put me on 14 ounces a day for six months?—The first six months of your sentence was solitary confinement, and, during that time, you received 20 ounces a day.

Witness: That's a mistake. 17 ounces of rice is right.

Prisoner—This witness tells you nothing but a tissue of lies. One time he says one quantity of rice, and the next minute he says another quantity. I wish him to be accurate on this question of diet. Did he not give me 14 ounces instead of 17 or 20 ounces?—No, my Lord.

Are you not aware that, on several occasions, when I found the rice was not enough, I went to the cook-house and weighed it and found my complaint was well founded?—I am not aware.

Is it not the fact that you gave orders to the turnkey in charge of the cooking department to supply me with fourteen ounces of rice and no more?

His Lordship—He denied that already.

Prisoner—Well, I can prove that by calling the turnkey in charge of the department. Is it not the fact that according to the gaol regulations a prisoner is entitled to have four ounces of bread each week after six months of confinement?—No, my Lord.

Prisoner—The cutting down of my food without any reasonable or just cause is ill-treatment, and I must explain.

His Lordship—So far, you have entirely failed to prove it. Has he made any complaint to the Visiting Justices?

Witness—I think one, my Lord. Prisoners 114 and 115 complained of low diet to the Visiting Justices, on 7th August.

His Lordship—The Justices inquired as to his food and found he was still on separate diet—17 ounces a day. If he found the diet a little low, the only remedy I can suggest is that he should not get into prison.

Prisoner—Do you remember some time last year Mr. Robinson and Mr. Tooker went to the gaol as Visiting Justices, and I complained to them about my diet?—Mr. Robinson and Mr. Tooker visited the gaol on 24th October owing to a complaint regarding the quantity of food. They carefully investigated the complaint, and found the food good and sound.

His Lordship—Ask him if he complained that time?

Witness—Yes, I did complain to the Justices of the Peace, my Lord, that the quantity of rice was only 22 ounces instead of 26.

His Lordship—I see the Justices made two recommendations; were they attended to?

Witness—They were attended to.

His Lordship (quoting from the report of the Justices): said—The complaints with regard to the quantity of food were carefully investigated, and we found the arrangements for distributing the portions were good and practicable. We are pleased to note that the prisoners admitted

that complaints as to the quantity of food were generally attended to and corrected when found wrong. The time allowed by prisoners for accepting or rejecting the portions is brief, and consequently gives rise to complaints.

Witness—That recommendation was attended to, and they had a little more time allowed to complain.

Prisoner—Are you aware that, after that complaint, my diet was increased from 26 to 32 ounces and continued for three weeks? It was then cut down to 22 ounces.—I am not aware, my lord.

Is it not the fact that you have been cutting down my diet without authority?—No, my lord.

Prisoner—I wish to thrash out the question of diet thoroughly, otherwise I will be starved to death.

His Lordship—Ask the next prisoner if he has any questions.

The second prisoner then proceeded to cross-examine witness at great length, on much the same lines as the first prisoner. After some questions as to how the alleged weapon came to be in his hand, which the witness could not answer, prisoner alleged that he had not got pork for a period of two years.

The third prisoner also cross-questioned the witness at great length.

The witness, in answer to this prisoner, said that he (prisoner) had been punished a number of times.

His Lordship—Who puts him on low diet like that?

Witness—I give the order.

His Lordship—After investigation?

Witness—Yes.

Prisoner cited several instances in which for offences, which he denied, he had been peremptorily ordered into solitary confinement, and got ten days added on to his sentence. He then alleged that he was not allowed by witness to defend himself. Witness accepted the warder's report without allowing him (prisoner) a word in self-defence.

At the conclusion of his evidence, the prisoner said to witness—I think you had better tell the truth. If you do not, when I go back to prison, I will beat you again.

His Lordship—You had better take care of those prisoners in future.

In answer to his Lordship, witness said that the second prisoner assaulted him on a previous occasion, on 28th July, 1897, with a bamboo carrying pole. For that prisoner got 2 strokes. The character of the first prisoner was "fair," and that of the other two "bad."

The evidence of Indian warders was then taken as to the recent assault.

The first prisoner: I have nothing to say against the warders of Victoria Gaol. They have not ill-treated me—only the first witness, my lord.

At a later stage the first prisoner, after a lengthy cross examination of one of the Indian warders, said—You are too cowardly to tell the truth.

On the Court re-assembling after tiffin, the Court Interpreter explained to his Lordship that he omitted to interpret a remark by the prisoners, before tiffin, to the effect that they had no complaint to make against Captain May and Dr. Thomson, whom they liked as much as their own fathers.

Mr. Pollock said—With regard to the non-attendance of the prisoners' witnesses at the Magistracy I might explain to your Lordship that they themselves did not wish witnesses called there.

His Lordship—It was not the Magistrate who would not take them?

Mr. Pollock—No, my Lord; they told the Magistrate they wanted to call their witnesses at the Supreme Court.

His Lordship—I am glad to hear this explanation.

Dr. Thomson said that on 27th March he made an examination of the wounds on Mr. Craig. It was after ten in the morning. There were two wounds on the back of the head by some cutting instruments. They were two separate cuts, and they met at an obtuse angle. Altogether the wound was about six inches in length, and cut to the bone, slanting downwards. The hemorrhage was very severe, and although there was a heavy bandage put on, that was soaked with blood and hemorrhage

was still going on. There was a wound on the top of the head in front an inch and a half in length and superficial. There were two wounds on the front of the right, and the other on the left of the left shoulder, probably inflicted by the plane blade (produced).

Mr. Pollock said that completed his case.

The first witness for the defence was a long service convict who said: "It was not exactly cutting down the food. It was the cooking that was wrong. I know how to cook rice because it has been my particular department for some years. But in the gaol they cook it wrongly, and it is well known that the more water you put in, the more you swell it and increase the quantity. I did not hear the prisoners make any complaint because I was in the kitchen, and I don't know whether Mr. Craig has been unkind to the other prisoners or not."

First prisoner—Do you know that my food was cut down, and do you know that the prosecutor Mr. Craig takes my food away from me and gives it to other prisoners?

Witness—I don't know. I was in the kitchen.

Second prisoner—Did I not ask you why you cut down my rice?

His Lordship—Ask him to discern the difference between Mr. Craig cutting down the rice and the witness doing so.

Second prisoner—It is the Superintendent that has cut it down, and that's what I call bad treatment.

Witness—The rice has not been cut down in my time.

Third prisoner—Do you remember one time rice was supplied to me and it was cut down when I should have got 26 oz?

Witness—Yes. I remember it; you were cut down.

Third prisoner—Did I not suggest that I should cook the rice myself?

Witness—Yes.

Third prisoner—Did I not complain that you deprived me of my pork?

Witness—You did.

His Lordship—But you are not entitled to pork until you've been there three years, and then only providing that you behave yourself.

A convict who was undergoing twenty years, examined by the first prisoner, said that about two years ago the regulation rice was cut down. Sometimes in the weighing out some prisoners got more and some got less. Those who had the lesser quantity sometimes complained. For his part when he got less he used to go to the Visiting Justices.

His Lordship: You tell him I'm not going to have any absurd questions. As long as the regulations are in force they must be obeyed; what I'm concerned in is this, has the prosecutor done anything to his damage? Has he cut down his rice?

Second prisoner: Yes, he has. He has starved me and taken away my clothes. I have nothing to say against Dr. Thompson and Capt. May. They are all the same like my father.

Third prisoner: According to the new regulations is a man entitled to pork after three years?

His Lordship: You've got nothing to do with that, for you've only been in gaol a year. Have you any better question?

Third prisoner: That is very important to me, for without food how am I going to live? I have a witness who can prove the assault upon me by the prosecutor.

Tat Sing, sentenced to five years for armed robbery, was called. He said he knew nothing whatever about the assault.

Another convict said he had been in gaol for over 12 years. He knew something about the alleged ill-treatment. The Superintendent did not give the second prisoner enough food.

His Lordship: Did you get less than the regulations?

Witness: Yes! It was among the cooks in the kitchen and had nothing to do with Mr. Craig. If a prisoner did not get enough to eat he could make the ordinary complaint. Some did so. The prosecutor had cut his diet down but that was two or three years ago. Long service prisoners used to cook in the kitchens, but that was altered now, and short service men stepped in.

Another long service convict stated that he was sentenced in 1892 to eighteen years for

manslaughter. The new regulations had cut down his diet.

His Lordship: Do you know if Mr. Craig took any steps towards cutting down the food below the regulations?

No answer.

Another convict stepped in the box, but he could not add anything towards the evidence for the defence. He admitted having assaulted the prosecutor, Mr. Craig, and also a European warder, but the latter would not have been struck had he not stood in the way (laughter).

A further witness was put in the box, and in answer to his Lordship said that the gaol authorities should adopt a scheme of sending all the old men in the kitchens, and do away with the young ones who should go out to work.

Hon. F. H. May, Capt. Superintendent of Police, and Superintendent of the gaol, said he had had that charge for about five years and was fully conversant with the new regulation which came in force in January, 1899. The new scale of diet effected a slight reduction for men on hard labour, while for men on soft labour the reduction was immaterial. The difference between the old and new regulations was that a man received 1½ lb rice daily under the old regime and that was divided into a morning and evening meal of 11oz each, and 2oz for condiments. Under the new regulations a man like the third prisoner would be better off.

In answer to his Lordship, Capt. May said that he visited the gaol once a week, or oftener, and had had complaints made to him, but not against any European. He would like to say that he took the trouble to translate the new scales of diet into Chinese so that they could know exactly what food and privileges had been set out for them. There was no trouble about it, for on the whole the prisoners seemed to be satisfied. The position of the convicts was in no wise altered.

His Lordship: What is Mr. Craig's bearing with the prisoners?

Capt. May: I have never seen him treat men but in the right way. He is a strict disciplinarian, and enforces the regulations. In fact he is a most humane officer.

His Lordship: Then you have no complaint to make against him?

Capt. May: No.

His Lordship: Then the outbreak came as a surprise?

Capt. May: As regards surprise I have already reported to Government that it is a dangerous thing to have 150 young convicts mixed up with life convicts. I do not remember any complaint being made against the Superintendent.

Mr. Pollock drew attention to Rule 259 which laid down how a convict could get from one class to the other and how he could earn a sufficient quantity of marks to enable him to rise.

Capt. May: During the month previous to the outbreak there were two cases of Chinese who complained about their rations, and in both cases they had turned out to be unwarranted.

The prisoners then addressed the jury, and said that the only person they had a grievance against was Mr. Craig. They did not want to return to the gaol, and instead of sending them back would the court pass sentence of death? Failing that, would the court cut off their lower limbs or deport them to a far-off spot on the earth's surface, but not to send them back to the gaol?

His Lordship said he had no power to order any of these things.

The jury after a short consultation found the prisoners guilty on both counts in the indictment.

His Lordship in passing sentence said: After a long trial, the jury are of opinion that you are guilty of the crime with which you have been charged. You are all evil-disposed persons who imagined that you had a grievance in the regulations, and you set to work to redress those grievances in your own way. I do not believe that a grievance really existed. I believe your action is the outcome of your evil-disposed mind, and your further conduct in this matter shows you to be criminals of the worst type. You have been found guilty, and it is necessary that you should undergo the most severe punishment. I do not know that there is very much difference between the three of you, although I am inclined to think that the

first two are worse than the third. The sentence of this Court upon the first and second prisoners is that they suffer six years' imprisonment, and as to the third prisoner, that he suffer five years and a half's imprisonment with hard labour. The sentences will run after those you are now undergoing.

Saturday, 20th April.

IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AN INGENIOUS FRAUD.

Ching Kee was placed in the dock charged with obtaining goods by false pretences on 30th and 31st March last.

He pleaded not guilty.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. Bowley, the Crown Solicitor) prosecuted, and the prisoner was undefended.

The following jury were empanelled:—Messrs. William R. Allison, S. C. de Rosario, John Millar, A. L. da Silva, J. P. M. Smith, C. E. Pearce, and Abdool Hussain Abdool Rahim.

Counsel for the prosecution in opening the proceedings said that on March 20th last Ching Kee went to the store of Messrs. Ritchie & Co., shipchangers, and ordered some provisions. He said he was the interpreter on board the French warship *Amaral Charner*, and he would call the next day and take away the goods. The next morning he again made his appearance, and after ordering some more goods told the assistant to have them ready by the afternoon. The goods were accordingly made up in parcels and subsequently placed on board a sampan. A bill was made out which the prisoner said he would pay for immediately, and Mr. Encarnacio went with him in a steam launch with the goods in the sampan in tow. They reached the centre of the harbour, looked round, and then searched both the Kowloon and the Hongkong shores, but could not find the warship. Prisoner then said that probably she had gone to Canton. Mr. Encarnacio then resumed possession of the goods, and told the prisoner that he could not have them unless he could get a guarantee. The next day the prisoner went to the shop bringing with him another man whom he represented to be the owner of the Chan Man Sing shop and who signed a guarantee for payment. The goods were delivered, but it subsequently turned out that the guarantee was bad, and the prisoner was arrested. The goods comprised 15 cases condensed milk, 10 cases of sardines, 5 cases of salmon and 15 cases of lager beer, 10 piculs of coffee, 20 cases of butter, 10 boxes of cigars, and 10 cases of assorted jams.

Evidence in support of counsel's statement having been given, his Lordship summed up and the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

His Lordship passed sentence of twelve months' hard labour.

Monday, 22nd April.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

H. PRICE AND CO. V. LUM SUI SANG.

His Lordship delivered judgment in this suit, which was instituted to obtain a decree of the Court compelling the defendant to grant a lease of the shop No. 12, Queen's Road Central, and an adjacent godown.

Mr. H. E. Pollock K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Francis, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) represented the defendants.

The suit was heard on the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th March, when the judge on the conclusion of the plaintiff's and defendant's case submitted certain issues to the jury. They were:—

1. Did Shan Shang in the early part of the year 1900, make an agreement on behalf of the defendant with the plaintiff whereby it was agreed

(a) that the plaintiff was to have a lease of a godown at No. 10, Queen's Road Central, from the 1st May, 1900, to 28th February, 1902, at a monthly rental of \$50 free of taxes; and

(b) that the plaintiff was to have a lease of the premises at No. 12, Queen's Road Central, then occupied by the plaintiff in his business of H. Price and Company for a term of three years from 1st July, 1900, at the monthly rental of \$300 free of taxes; and

(c) that the defendant as landlord should pay the sum of \$60 in respect of any limewashing and painting which should thereafter be executed upon the said premises at No. 12, Queen's Road Central, but any expenditure for limewashing and repairing, &c., beyond the sum should be paid by the plaintiff as tenant?

2. If it was agreed as in (a) and (b) did these agreements constitute one common and connected agreement, or were they separate and independent agreements?

3. If question No. 1 is answered in the affirmative, did Shan Shang have authority to enter into the agreement on behalf of the defendant?

4. If so, has the plaintiff expended money upon the faith of the said agreement with

(I) the knowledge of the defendant
(II) the knowledge and consent of the defendant

(a.) In levelling and cementing the floor of the said godown, and

(b.) upon the colour washing and painting of the said premises, No. 12, Queen's Road Central, and

(c.) in altering and enlarging the said premises at No. 12, Queen's Road Central, and

(d.) in extending the electric light in the said premises at No. 12, Queen's Road Central?

Upon these issues the jury found the following verdict.

"For the plaintiff unanimously upon the first question a, b and c;

"For the plaintiff unanimously on the second question.

"For the plaintiff on questions No. 3 and 4 by 6 to 1."

Upon that verdict on 28th March both parties came into court and claimed judgment, and after long arguments by counsel judgment was reserved.

His Lordship now set aside the finding of the jury with regard to issue 4 (a), but directed the verdict to stand on all other issues.

Judgment was therefore entered for the plaintiff in accordance with the finding of the jury, and costs of suit, but an abatement of \$100 was to be allowed the defendant on issue 4 (a) upon which the jury had given a wrong finding.

Tuesday, 23rd April.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

DAMAGES FOR MALICIOUS PROSECUTION.

His Honour was engaged in hearing the suit of Lam Hon v. Choy Cheung. It was brought by the plaintiff, Lam Hon, a contractor, residing at Lam Ok, in the Wong Chau village, New Territory, against the defendant, who was also a contractor, residing at 45, Pottinger Street, claiming the sum of \$500 damages for malicious prosecution.

Mr. Grist (Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Hays (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) represented the defendant.

Mr. Grist, in opening, read the pleadings, and said that his client was arrested on 12th March last, and kept in custody till the 18th, when he was admitted to bail in the sum of \$50. The charge against him was that of theft, and it was alleged that he had stolen a quantity of jewelry and other articles to the value of \$450. The plaintiff was brought before Mr. Hazeland on 22nd March when the evidence in support of the charge was gone into and the magistrate dismissed the case, and released him from custody. Roscoe's *Nisi Prius Evidence* laid down that in an action for malicious prosecution, the plaintiff might, by proper defences, be put to the proof, (1) the prosecution of the plaintiff; (2) its determination; (3) that the defendant was the prosecutor; (4) his malice and want of probable cause; and (5) the damage sustained. Everything in the action was admitted except probable cause, malice, and damages. He (Mr. Grist) proposed to put in the depositions taken at the police court to

prove the want of reasonable and probable cause, and with regard to malice he would call witnesses.

The plaintiff was called, and bore out the opening statement of his solicitor. In cross-examination he said that he was out of employment at present, but when engaged at his trade could earn about \$80 a month. The circumstances under which the trouble arose were in respect of some beams and rafters used in the erection of a theatre, and the feud had been going on for some years. It culminated in the quarrel of February last, when the police were called in and Lam Hon was given into custody on an alleged charge of theft.

Sergeant Lamont, of the An Yan station, who had been deputed to enquire into the circumstances attending the alleged robbery, said it was doubtful such an occurrence should have taken place without anyone seeing it.

The defendant was called, and stated that he was proceeding homeward on the night of the alleged assault and was carrying a lantern. Some men sprang out of a bush by the side of the road and struck at him. The plaintiff was one of them. He subsequently made a report at the station. The sergeant sent two Chinese constables to the spot, but nothing could be found. No trace of the robbery could be seen, and he went about his business in the usual way. A few days afterwards he came across the plaintiff and gave him into custody. He was sure Lam Hon was one of the men who sprang out of the bush and robbed him. He had known him almost from childhood, but it was not true that he (witness) had a grudge against him because of a quarrel concerning a match in which the police interfered, and his uncle had to pay \$4.60 to clear the matter up.

In cross-examination the witness said he identified four out of the nine who assaulted him, and was positive that the plaintiff was one of them.

Mr. Grist submitted that the case was one of the strongest which had ever been before the court for malicious prosecution. These cases were always difficult to establish, but, he submitted, in the present one, the proof had been most conclusively shown, and he asked for a verdict.

His Honour replied that the onus of proof of the want of reasonable and probable cause was on the plaintiff, and he did not think it had been shown. He did not think there had been malice, and he could not hold there was no robbery. There might have been a *bona fide* mistake, and as a reasonable doubt existed he must give the defendant the benefit of it. There would be judgment for the defendant, with costs on the amount claimed.

THE VITRIOL OUTRAGE.

Before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on the 25th inst., George Allen, storehouseman at the Naval Yard, residing at Sea View, Wanchai, who was arrested on Wednesday, 24th inst., by Inspector Cuthbert, of the detective staff, was brought up on remand from the 25th inst. and charged "that he, the said George Allen, on 17th January, 1901, and on divers subsequent dates, at Victoria, in this colony, feloniously did aid, abet, counsel, and procure one Yeung Kun to throw a certain destructive substance upon one George Reek, which destructive substance was in fact thrown upon the said George Reek on 14th March, 1901, and by which the said George Reek did suffer grievous bodily harm."

The prosecution was conducted by Captain Superintendent May.

The defendant, who pleaded not guilty, was represented by Mr. J. Hastings.

Yeung Kun, the first witness examined, said—I am at present undergoing a term of three years' hard labour for procuring one Lo Tsai to throw vitriol upon one George Reek. I was convicted at the last Criminal Sessions. Before I went to gaol I was employed at the Naval Yard. I know the defendant; he is employed at the Dockyard in charge of a store, and has been for ten years. I was employed in that store. On the 15th of February the defendant asked me to get a man to strike Mr. Reek, and I promised to do so. He said the man who did it would get \$10.

This conversation took place in the store. The defendant complained that Mr. Reek was always finding fault with him. Between 15th February and 4th March the defendant asked me at intervals if I had got a man. On 4th March, in the morning, the defendant produced from his pocket a small piece of coloured paper, and gave it to me, telling me to go to A. S. Watson to buy the "medicine water," which was to be thrown on the chief storeman, Mr. Reek. I gave the paper and some money to Cheung Ying, a cook, and told him to go to Watson's and get the stuff. They would not give it him, and I told Cheung Ying to try the German dispensary, where he was successful in getting what he wanted. On 5th March an attempt was made to throw the fluid over Mr. Reek, but it did not succeed. On 6th March thirty cents' worth of the fluid was bought, again at the German dispensary. Between 4th and 12th March the defendant frequently asked me if the man had thrown the fluid over Mr. Reek. On 12th March, at eight p.m., I went to Lo Tsoi's house and told Lo Tsoi that a European had a "certain matter" on hand, and that if he would do it he would get \$10. Lo Tsoi subsequently agreed to throw the "medicine water."

The witness then went on to describe the assault, and the time and manner of its perpetration—matter which has already appeared in these columns. The only fresh point of importance elicited was the handing over by defendant to witness of the \$10 promised for the man who did the work.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hastings, witness said he did not know if any "medicine water" was kept at the Naval Yard. As to the piece of paper which was given him by the defendant, he had not seen it since he handed it over to Cheung Ying. Witness did not know of his own knowledge that a dispute existed between Mr. Reek and the defendant, and he had never heard the former finding fault. So far as he was aware, Mr. Reek had never had occasion to report the defendant for breach of duty, but it was the case that he (witness) had been so reported to the Commodore and fined thirty cents. Coming to the throwing of the vitriol, witness knew it was a criminal matter, but was told by the defendant that only the man who actually threw the vitriol would be arrested. He paid away the \$10 given him by the defendant, and had not made one cash over the business. Mr. May had taken his statement, which was not till after he was convicted. Previous to his conviction, he had not made a statement to any Government official—not even to the police. No one had told him that if he gave evidence against a foreigner his punishment would be made lighter. The defendant had in his keeping \$80 belonging to witness, which had been deposited by the latter with him. Witness did not know where that money now was.

This concluded the cross examination.

Lo Tsoi, who is now serving a sentence of three years' hard labour for throwing the vitriol on Mr. Reek, described the circumstances attending the assault. Yeung Kun promised him \$10 for doing the work, but his (witness's) arrest prevented him from receiving the money.

Mr. Hastings did not cross-examine.

François George Reek was the next witness. His evidence was similar to that given by him at the magisterial hearing of the charges against Lo Tsoi and Yeung Kun. The defendant's pay, witness thought, was 9s. 6d. a day. The term "strict disciplinarian" would be the correct one to apply to him (witness); he was bound to carry out his superior's orders. He had never had occasion to report the defendant but he had reprimanded him for minor offences, not, however, frequently—perhaps about a dozen times in the twenty months he (witness) had been employed at the Naval Yard.

Captain May—In the time the defendant has been at the Naval Yard, would you, considering his wage, be surprised to learn he is a comparatively rich man?

Mr. Hastings—I object to that question. Besides, this witness's opinion is worth nothing.

His Worship sustained the objection.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hastings—Witness was on good terms with the defendant so far as he knew, and had known him intimately for the last eighteen months. They had lived together in the same house for a considerable time. When

witness left that house last November, he did not do so on account of any quarrel.

They were on perfectly friendly terms, and had continued so. He had no reason for thinking that the defendant would commit such an outrage upon him as that which he is charged with, or instigate any other person to do so. Witness was very much surprised when he learnt that the defendant had been arrested. When he was assaulted, witness turned over in his mind the names of persons who might have committed the assault, but that of the defendant did not occur to him. The defendant was regarded as a good, steady workman—at least, so far as witness was aware. He had had occasion once or twice to find fault with Yeung Kun, and report him. Witness had no reason for thinking that the Chinese in the Yard disliked him.

In answer to Captain May—He did not suspect anyone in connection with the assault.

The hearing was adjourned till the 26th inst., at 2.15 p.m.

Mr. Hastings—I must ask your Worship to grant bail. There is no evidence against the defendant except that of Yeung Kun, to whose advantage it is to get the defendant into trouble. I don't think there is any reason for refusing bail.

His Worship—I must hear what the prosecution says.

Mr. Hastings—Might I ask your Worship to exercise your own judgment?

Captain May—I object to bail on account of the gravity of the charge against the defendant. It is almost equal to one of murder, and the punishment is imprisonment for life.

Bail was refused.

MEETING OF JUSTICES.

A meeting of Justices was held at the Magistracy on the 23rd inst., Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Acting Police Magistrate, presiding, to consider an application from one Heinrich Varrelmorn to transfer to one Adolf Bockelmann a publican's licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situated at Nos. 90 and 92, Queen's Road West, under the sign of the "Western Hotel." The other gentlemen present were Messrs. F. J. Baddeley (Deputy Superintendent of Police), J. H. Kemp (Acting Police Magistrate), and C. A. D. Melbourne (Chief Clerk at the Magistracy).

The applicant stated that he was in ill-health, and wished to go home on a holiday.

The application was granted unanimously.

GARRISON ATHLETIC MEETING.

The Garrison Athletic Meeting, a two-day fixture, came to a successful close on Saturday, the 20th inst. As is doubtless well-known, this meeting is an entirely new departure. There have been numerous athletic meetings in the past, but never one in which the whole Garrison has participated. As Major-General Gascoigne remarked in his speech on Saturday afternoon, the holding of such an athletic gathering was thought of only about a fortnight ago, and to compile such an excellent programme as was gone through on Friday and Saturday—and, moreover, to carry that programme along with the smoothness and celerity that characterised it—must indeed have required great organisation and the expenditure of no inconsiderable amount of labour and time. Now that the administrative committee of the sports have seen the happy reward attending the organisation of this, the first Garrison Athletic Meeting ever held in the colony, we may doubtless look forward to similar and probably even larger athletic gatherings in the future.

Fine weather—though a trifle warm and at times cloudy—favoured the sports on Friday and Saturday, 19th and 20th inst., and as a consequence the gathering of spectators on the Wongneichong Recreation Ground was a large and thoroughly representative one. The bands of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 3rd Madras Light Infantry and 22nd Bombay Infantry attended, and accounted very pleasantly for the intervals between the events. Appended are the results:—

FIRST DAY.

1.—Throwing the Cricket Ball.—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by

Soldiers' Club:—1, Private Lillywhite, A.O.C., 99 yards 2 inches; 2, Bombadier Norris, R.G.A., 89 yards 8 inches; 3, L.-C. Dickens, R.W.F., 86 yards 24 inches.

2.—Putting the Weight (Indian Native Troops).—First prize, \$8; second, \$4; third, \$2. Presented by Hon. J. Keswick:—1, Maula Baksh, H.K.S.B.R.A., 30 ft. 2 inches; 2, Madat Khan, H.K.S.B.R.A.; 3, Damaris, 5th I.H.C.

3.—Quarter-mile Race (Indian Native Troops).—First prize, \$8; second, \$4; third, \$2. Presented by R. K. Leigh, Esq.:—1, Bahn Singh; 2, Gunda Singh; 3, Sohn Singh (all H.K.S.B.R.A.)

4.—Heats for Hurdle Race (British Troops).—See final on second day.

5.—High Jump (Indian Native Troops).—First prize, \$8; second, \$4; third, \$2. Presented by Hon. J. Keswick:—1, Jabin, 4ft. 6½ in.; 2, Sija Ram; 3, Mukundi.

6.—Hundred Yards Race (British Troops).—Prizes presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Cor. Griffiths, R.G.A., 11½ secs.; 2, Sergeant Wallis, R.G.A.; 3, Bom. Frost, R.G.A.

7.—One Mile Race (open to all natives of India in Government employ).—First prize, \$10; second, \$5; third, \$2. Presented by R. Shewan, Esq.:—1, Sunda Singh, H.K.S.B.R.A.; 2, Binja Ram, 22nd B.I.; 3, Musta Kim, H. K. Regt.

8.—Football Place Kick (British Troops).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Ser. Ruth, R.G.A.; 2, Bom. Curran, R.G.A.; 3, Pte. Preedy, R.W.F.

9.—Siege Train Followers' Race.—First prize, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2. Presented by Captain Cameron:—1, Shaik Jawar; 2, Kulloo; 3, Ragtatue.

10.—Semi-final Tug-of-War (Indian Native Troops).—See final on second day.

11.—120 Yards Race (for British warrant and N.C. officers and men of six years' service and upwards; one yard allowed per year above minimum). First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by R. Shewan, Esq.:—Mas. Gun. Chisholm, R.G.A., 13½ secs.; 2, Cor. Griffiths; 3, Cor. Tuohy, R.A.M.C.

12.—Long Jump (Indian Native Troops).—First prize, \$8; second, \$4; third, \$2. Presented by W. Poate, Esq.:—1, Abdullah II, 22nd B.I., 16ft. 7½ in.; 2, Gunda Singh, H.K.S.B.R.A.; 3, Sadu Ram, 22nd B.I.

13.—British Officers (sword v. sword, mounted).—A cup presented by L. Boyle, Esq.:—Capt. Finch, 1st B.I.

14.—Hundred Yards Race (Indian Native Troops).—First prize, \$8; second, \$4; third, \$2. Presented by R. K. Leigh, Esq.:—1, Shaik Abdullah II, 22nd B.I., 12½ secs.; 2, Bhan Singh, H.K.S.B.R.A.; 3, Gunda Singh (do.)

15.—220 Yards Race (British Troops).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Cor. Griffiths, 25secs.; 2, Ser. Wallis; 3, Bom. Reed, 25th E.D.

16.—Two Hundred Yards Followers' Race (other than Siege Train).—First prize, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2. Presented by Hon. C. P. Chater:—1, Rham Bheg, 5th I.H.C.; 2, Ram Khan, 1st B.I.; 3, Rawaz Khan, 22nd B.I.

17.—British Officers' Race.—A cup presented by Sir T. Jackson, Kt.:—1, Mr. Cowie; 2, Mr. Wakefield.

18.—150 Yards Race (Native Officers).—First prize, \$20; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by H.E. the Governor:—1, Jem Nubber Hassan, 22nd B.I.; 2, Sub.-Ahmed Deen, H.K.S.B.R.A.; 3, Gowan Somi, 3rd M.L.I.

19.—One Mile Race (British Troops).—First prize, \$25; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by H.E. the Governor:—1, Bandsman Andrews, R.W.F., 4mins. 56secs.; 2, Mas. Gun. Chisholm; 3, Bom. Reed.

20.—Obstacle Race (all natives of India in Government employ).—First prize, \$13; second, \$8; third, \$4. Presented by Hon. C. P. Chater:—1, Nullah Singh, H.K.S.B.R.A.; 2, Shaik Gillimon, 3rd M.L.I.; 3, Shaik Kulloo, 22nd B.I.

21.—Semi-final Tug-of-War (British Troops).—See final on second day.

SECOND DAY.

1.—High Jump (British Troops).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Bandsman Gregory, R.W.F., 5ft. 1in.; 2, Gun. McCann, R.G.A., 5ft. 4in.; 3, Bom. Frost, 5ft.

2.—220 Yards Race (members of Police Force).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, P.C. Gast; 2, P.C. George. Two ran.

3.—150 Yards Race (for Indian Native Troops of 12 years' service and upwards; one yard for each year above minimum).—First prize, \$8; second, \$4; third, \$2. Presented by Hon. C. P. Chater:—1, Faizali Khan, 22nd B.I.; 2, Gunda Singh; 3, Bujan Singh, Siege Train, Bullock East.

4.—Final Hurdle Race (British troops).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Ser. Wallis, 194 secs.; 2, Cor. Griffiths; 3, Cor. Tomlinson, R.W.F.

5.—Long Jump (British Troops).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Bandsman Gregory, 17ft. 7in.; 2, Gun. McCann; 3, Ser. Ruth.

6.—Bullock Riding.—First prize, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2. Presented by W. Poate, Esq.:—1, L. N. Dayran; Drvr. Maikry; 3, Goolan Mahommed.

7.—Putting the Shot (British Troops).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Ser. Ruth, 35ft. 7in.; 2, Bom. McMurray; 3, Cor. Griffiths. Shot weighed 16lbs.

8.—One Mile Race (open to Europeans).—First prize, \$25; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Bandsman Andrews, 5min. 3secs.; 2, Con Sheehan, Naval Yard; 3, Bom. Curran.

9.—Final Tug-of-War (Native Troops).—Prize of \$35. Presented by H.E. Major-General Gascoigne:—Won by H.K.S.B.R.A.

10.—Throwing the Hammer.—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Gun. Linergan, Siege Train, 81½ ft.; 2, Ser. Ruth; 3, Bom. McMurray.

11.—Khud (ravage) Race.—First prize, \$12; second, \$8; third, \$4. Presented by Sir Thomas Jackson, Kt.:—1, Binja Ram; 2, Naranjai Singh; 3, Shaik Narazen (all 22nd B.I.)

12.—Section Tent-pegging (open to teams of four British officers and Hongkong residents).—Cups. Presented by Hon. Sec.:—Captain Loring's R.A. team.

13.—220 Yards Race (Hongkong Volunteer Corps).—First prize, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, S. Gidley, 35 secs.; 2, H. Gidley. Two ran.

14.—Wrestling on Bullocks.—First prize, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2. Presented by Lieut. Col. Perrott, R.A.:—Kowloon team beat Laichikok Team.

15.—Obstacle Race (open to Europeans).—First prize, \$20; second, \$15; third, \$10. Presented by Soldiers' Club:—1, Sapper Powell, R.E., 1 min. 45 secs.; 2, Gun. McCormack, Siege Train; 3, Gun. Harrington, 38th S.D.

16.—Final Tug-of-War (British Troops).—Prize of \$35. Presented by H.E. Major-General Gascoigne:—Won by Siege Train. Time, 5 min. 20 secs.

17.—Bullock Driving.—First prize, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2. Presented by Hon. J. Keswick and some officers of the Siege Train:—1, Bisesar; 2, Drvr. Ghasita; 3, Drvr. Piyari.

At the conclusion of the sports Major-General GASCOIGNE delivered a short speech. He said

—Ladies and gentlemen, before calling on Mrs. Bertie to distribute the prizes I should like to make a few remarks. This Garrison Athletic Meeting is the first attempt of the kind we have made, and I need not tell you that it has required a great deal of organisation and management to finish all the competitions in the short time we did. I therefore think there is a good deal of thanks due to a number of people who have undertaken the job and done it so well as it has been done. The committee of officers who undertook the management of affairs are the first people to whom our thanks are due. Of course, some of the members of this committee stand out in greater relief than others, and first amongst these I might mention Captain Pritchard, of the Royal Artillery. (Applause.) He had the whole management of the refreshment department in his hands—(laughter)—and whether he performed his duties to your satisfaction or not you best can tell. (Renewed laughter.) Not only had he that to do, but he had also a good deal of management of money connected therewith, as we had resolved that any expenses

attached to that department must be kept quite separate from the expenses accruing to the sports. All this has given him a great deal of extra work. (Applause.) Next on the list of those to whom we are indebted is Quartermaster Campbell, of the Royal Engineers. Our greatest debt of gratitude is due to him, and it is no exaggeration to say that without him we could not have made this meeting the success we have. (Applause.) He has given us not only the benefit of his great experience in these matters, but he has also worked morning, noon and evening to achieve the success we have realised. (Applause.) Then, lastly, I come to my own aide-de-camp, Captain Trefusis. (Hear, hear.) All I can tell you is that he has been working for the last four or five days up till late at night to get the whole thing together. (Applause.) Besides these, the committee have told me that a debt of thanks is due to a great number of officers who voluntarily gave their services on the ground freely and heartily. (Applause.) It was only by such co-operation we could hope to make a big meeting of this kind the success it has been. I will not detain you much longer, but I would like to say these last few words. Our best and last thanks—I speak on behalf of the garrison I have the honour to command—are due to those outsiders—that is, outside of soldiers—who have been kind enough to give us any number of prizes I liked to ask for. (Applause.) This kind of spirit is no new thing in Hongkong. I had only to write to anybody—Sir Thomas Jackson, the Hon. C. P. Chater—any number of people, and they gave me not only one prize, but any number I asked for. (Hear, hear, and applause.) In consequence our success has been so assured that we have been able to conduct the meeting at a much smaller expense to the Soldiers' Club, through which the meeting was originally started. I will detain you no longer, and have very great pleasure in calling upon Mrs. Bertie to give out the prizes. (Loud applause.)

Mrs. Bertie, wife of Lieut.-Col. the Hon. R. H. Bertie, R.W.F., then distributed the prizes, at the conclusion of which, on the call of Major-General Gascoigne, the lady was given three hearty cheers.

This closed the meeting.

LAWN TENNIS.

H.K.C.C. TOURNAMENTS.

On the 19th inst. results in the lawn tennis tournaments were:—Championship, P. A. Cox beat T. Sercombe Smith (7-5, 9-7, 2-6, 4-6, 6-3); A. Class Handicap—H. Pinckney, 15-3, beat A. H. Hollingsworth, 15-2 (6-3, 6-2); B. Class Handicap—H. Birkett, owes 2/6, beat N. E. Trimmingham, (6-3, 6-3).

On the 20th inst. results were as follows:—Double Handicap—H. Humphreys and A. Humphreys, owe 15-1, beat C. H. Gale and J. A. Jupp, scratch (6-0, 6-4); Single Handicap, B. class—F. D. Bain, 15, beat J. E. Fee, owes 15-4 (6-2, 7-5, 6-4); J. Hooper, owes 15, beat H. Birkett, owes 3-6 (6-2, 9-7); A. class—P. A. Cox, owes 1-6, beat Major Buttanshaw, 4-6, (6-2, 6-4); E. G. Barrett, 4-6, beat D. Clapham, owes 2-6 (8-6, 6-4); Professional Pairs—H. Pinckney and F. P. Harold beat A. B. Rouse and C. M. G. Burnie.

On the 22nd:—Championship—A. Humphreys beat H. W. Slade (7-5, 6-1, 6-2); B. class Handicap—J. B. Shettle owes 15-3 beat L. Lammet 3/6 (6-2, 6-2); F. D. Bain 15 beat J. Hooper owes 15 (1-6, 7-5, 6-1).

On the 23rd:—Championship—F. H. Yeats beat H. Humphreys 3-6 (0-7, 7-5, 7-5); Professional Pairs—E. F. Mackay and P. A. Cox beat A. and H. Humphreys (6-3, 4-6, 6-3); Double Handicap—E. G. Barrett and F. H. Yeats, owe 2/6, beat A. H. Hollingsworth and N. E. Trimmingham, owe 2/6 (6-2, 6-2); H. W. Slade and H. Pinckney, owe 3/3, beat Capt. Tulloch and D. G. Cowie, owe 2/6 (6-2, 4-6, 8-6); Handicap B. Class—F. X. de Castro, 15-3, beat J. B. Shettle, owes 15-3 (6-3, 4-6, 6-3); C. M. G. Burnie (scr.) beat R. G. Gerrard, owes 1/6 (3-6, 6-0, 6-2); A. B. Rouse, owes 3/6, beat E. J. Libeaud, 1/6 (6-3, 6-2).

On the 24th:—Double Handicap—C. M. G. Burnie and A. B. Rouse, 3/6, beat H. J. Gedge and Wei On, owe 2/6 (6-2, 4-6, 8-6); A. class Handicap—A. Humphreys,

owes 2/6, beat J. A. Jupp, s.c. (6-3, 6-2); Professional Pairs—E. J. Grist and T. Sercombe Smith beat C. H. Gale and J. Lee (6-2, 6-1); Championship—P. A. Cox beat E. F. Mackay (6-2, 6-2, 6-3). Today's fixtures are: Captain Waymouth v. A. Brook Smith, E. G. Barrett v. H. W. Slade, H. Pinckney v. E. F. Mackay.

On the 25th:—Single Handicap A. Class—Barrett, 4/6, beat Slade, owes 1/6, (11-9, 6-8, 6-4); Single Handicap B. Class—Brooke Smith, 3/6, beat Capt. Waymouth, owes 1/5, (7-5, 8-6).

MR. JOHN ROBERTS IN HONGKONG.

On the 24th inst. at the Hongkong Club Mr. John Roberts met over the billiard table Mr. A. G. Stokes, who was chosen to uphold the fame of this port. Mr. Roberts conceded 650 points in 1,000. Mr. Stokes reached his 800 to the Champion's 305, but by the interval the latter had put on another 100 while Mr. Stokes was at 803. On resumption, with breaks of 107 and 126, Mr. Roberts caught his opponent at 854, and finally won by 67 points. H.E. the Governor was amongst the spectators.

At 5 o'clock on Thursday evening, at the Hongkong Club, another match of 1,000 up was contested between Mr. John Roberts and Mr. E. H. Hinds, who was the local representative on this occasion and who received 650 points. An interesting game was witnessed, the Champion not reaching his second hundred until Mr. Hinds was at 722. Then he got to 400 to 819 and (with a break of 98) 500 to 842. Mr. Hinds contributed a 41 and reached 910 to his opponent's 521. Mr. Roberts, however, got to 700 to 931 and after a break of 101 reached 800 to 956 and 900 to 971. At 981 scores were level, and after the local man had a chance offered him at 986, Mr. Roberts got to his 1,000 against Mr. Hinds's 988.

After the game was over the Champion, as on the previous night, exhibited some very interesting trick shots.

Thursday night Mr. Roberts gave another exhibition of his skill, at the Chinese Club in Queen's Road. His opponent was Mr. A. G. Stokes, to whom he conceded 600 in 1,000. Mr. Roberts' biggest breaks were 173 and 150, and Mr. Stokes' biggest was 35. The latter was passed at 808, and Mr. Roberts finally won by 127 points still in play. There was a large attendance.

THE POLITICAL OBSTACLES TO MISSIONARY SUCCESS IN CHINA.

(Concluded.)

The following is the continuation of Mr. Michie's lecture, at the City Hall, on Tuesday, 16th inst.—

Before attempting to deduce any practical hints for the betterment of the existing situation, a glance at the manner of introduction of missions into China may not be amiss. For it has not been so clean and above-board as befitting the pure character of Christianity. Its entry has in fact been insidious, and attended with as much craft as the most fine-drawn pieces of worldly diplomacy usually are. Being all within the memory of living men, the various stages of the process are easily verified by any one who feels interested in the subject. The modern missionary question is not yet sixty years old. It was opened subsequent to and consequent upon the treaty of Nanking of 1842. Cemeteries, funeral rites, churches for Christian worship were permitted under the Treaty of Nanking. This applied of course to the five treaty ports to which all foreign intercourse was then strictly confined. The French sought, as an extension of these privileges, that the Chinese natives professing Christianity should likewise be protected. Their requests were considered and approved by the Imperial Commissioner, Kiying, who memorialised the throne on the subject in 1844 and 1845. In reply, the fullest toleration was granted by Imperial Rescript to "the religion of the Lord of Heaven which instructs and guides men in well-doing." More than that the Emperor decreed that "the ancient houses which had been built in the reign of Kanghi" be, with specified exceptions, "restored to the professors of this religion in their respective places." The French

demands were thus conceded with every appearance of liberality and good faith. The Chinese statesmen of that time seemed unsuspecting of the bitter fruit which was wrapped up in these innocent-looking demands. The germ of the whole French policy in the Far East was by that simple concession introduced into the Chinese body politic—the aggressive alliance with the Church, the deep purposes of which had been copiously expounded in State papers from the days of Louis XIV, descending in an unbroken series, with constantly accumulating force, to our own day. This first step, as all subsequent steps, in the introduction of missionaries was a conscious or unconscious imposition on the Chinese, inasmuch as the ulterior purpose was concealed under a pretext.

When the Treaties of 1858 came to be negotiated, a material advance was made on the French agreements of 1844 and 1846. A general demand was now made for toleration of Christianity in China. This again was a covert design to gain something more than what was asked for, since full toleration had already been accorded. What was really contemplated by the two Powers, or by their respective propagandists who pushed them from behind, was aggression, religious only on the part of Great Britain; religious, political and military on the part of France. The concession to France in 1846 was the iron wedge driven into the granite block: the concessions of 1858 and 1860 were the water applied to it, causing the rock to split. It was a gentle operation, ulterior designs being veiled by the mild phraseology of the treaties. The Christian religion was represented as teaching men to be virtuous; its other attributes being carefully concealed. Thus the grand hypocrisy of Christendom was embalmed in treaties dictated to China by the two victorious Powers, one Catholic and the other Protestant. It is impossible in this case to make any distinction between them.

Next, a fraud, audacious and flagitious, was perpetrated by a French missionary in the interests of the Catholic propaganda in 1860, when a clause of the most drastic significance was smuggled into the Chinese text only of the French treaty, unknown even to its nominal negotiator, Baron Gros. It stipulated for the full restitution of the buildings and other properties of the early Christians, irrespective of all intermediate ownerships, and irrespective apparently of those which had been already restored by the decree of 1846. It also provided for the permanent residence of missionaries in the interior, and for their buying land and erecting houses and churches. The clause might possibly have been repudiated by the Chinese Government on the discovery being made that it was not contained in the French version, for by agreement between the high contracting parties it was the French text alone which was to rule in case of disputed interpretation. But the Chinese had not the courage to face a fresh quarrel, perhaps even another war with France. The French Government, on its part, took no pains to bring the two versions of the treaty into harmony, but on the contrary allowed full advantage to be taken of the interpolated clause. The deception was indeed commented upon by Protestants, but their missions nevertheless availed themselves of its provisions under the "most favoured nation" privilege. And so it came to pass that the whole system of inland missions for the last forty years has been carried on under the aegis of this equivocal transaction. And, broadly speaking, the missionary troubles, with their attendant crimes and outrages, during the past 35 years have arisen from this general cause. As Protestants have taken full advantage of the French treaty, it is difficult to see how they can avoid the charge of being accessory after the fact to the means by which it was obtained. The situation, it must be freely admitted, was most embarrassing for them. They had either to follow the Catholic propaganda into the interior, or abandon that field to their competitors. Only one mission that I have heard of resisted the temptation, the one directed by Bishop Scott of Peking. Its members did not indeed refrain from going into the interior of the country, but so far as I have understood they claimed no rights there, and when persecuted in

one city they did not hesitate to flee to another, rather than invoke the strong hand of their Government to support them in an untenable position.

Consider for a moment the position of the Chinese Government in relation to these dubious proceedings. Leaving aside the question of comparative ethics, on which Western nations assume superiority over Eastern, has not the history of the introduction and spread of the Christian propaganda in China been such as to fill the Government of the country with warrantable suspicion? Have they not seen that the thing that was demanded of them has never been the thing that was enforced; that the pretence has borne no resemblance to the reality; that the religion which inculcates virtue is breaking up their country as the roots of a banyan tree dislocate a stone wall? And in that perfectly natural suspicion may we not discover some explanation, if not palliation, of the tortuous and criminal ways by which the Chinese have sought to thwart the purposes of those whom they regard as oppressors, bent on their destruction?

This would be a vain dissertation unless it opened the door to remedial measures. And this reflection brings me unfortunately to the weakest point in this address. The calamities which have been entailed on the Chinese people are, for the greater part, as much beyond the reach of remedy as the zeal of the propaganda is beyond the reach of argument. The religious aspect of the movement is not a legitimate subject for Government interference, however much it may invite general criticism. The mundane aims of the Romanist branch, and the territorial ambitions of the Powers with which the Church is bound up, are of too old standing to be affected by transitory occurrences or by public opinion. Of the whole composite structure of the propaganda, therefore, all that remains which is amenable to treatment is that small fraction of it which touches the civil relation between the Protestant missionaries and their respective governments, which for this purpose are represented by Great Britain and the United States. In perfect good faith, though utterly blind to what they were doing, these two Powers opened the door to their countrymen to overrun China, but without taking adequate steps to control their operations. They thus imposed on the Chinese an unworkable agreement, and the ill-adjusted machine has broken down. The question of inland residence had been urged by British merchants on their Government, which steadfastly refused to make such a demand on China on the ground, as stated by Sir R. Alcock, that inland residence was incompatible with ex-territorial privileges, and by Sir Thomas Wade, that he could not recommend a British Consul to be sent to a place where a gunboat could not reach. It would throw an unfair burden on the Chinese to compel them indiscriminately to entertain strangers who were exempt from their jurisdiction and it would be unfair to British subjects to allow them to reside in places where they could neither be controlled nor protected. Hence inland residence was refused to merchants, though, as we have seen, it was tacitly, by an oblique process, granted to missionaries—a much more dangerous social element. But, having allowed British missionaries, whether explicitly or implicitly, to avail themselves of the permission, it seems clear that the Governments were morally bound to supervise them, and either to follow them up by Consular officers to prevent disputes with Chinese officials, or to impose such regulations for their conduct as would work automatically as between the missionaries and the local authorities.

Having omitted to make any provision whatever for a clear understanding between the missionaries and the mandarins, and having discovered in the sequel the tragic consequences which the neglect entailed, it would appear that it became the duty of the Governments concerned, however late, to make good the omission as far as might be practicable. That duty remains to this day unfulfilled.

The only attempt to supply the want of a missionary concordat was that made by the Chinese Government itself in 1871. In that year the Tsungli Yamen issued an elaborate circular, addressed in the first instance to the

French Government, providing with great precision a *modus vivendi* for the missions. This proposal was not well received by any of the parties concerned. The British and American Governments excused themselves from the consideration of it on the ground that it applied to the Catholic propaganda, while the Protestant missions and the Press denounced it in the usual wholesale fashion as an insidious attempt to create a system of official espionage intended to paralyse all mission work. I frankly confess to having taken part in this tirade. Yet, viewed in the light of the subsequent thirty years' experience, it may well seem that the Powers and the missions missed an opportunity of placing the propaganda on a satisfactory working footing. The first proposals of the Chinese Government were not necessarily final; they invited discussion, and a fair discussion might have evolved a scheme which would have met the reasonable requirements of all; and if the British and American Governments had taken part in a conference with the French, the result must have been such a definition of the privileges of the Catholic missions as would have placed a check on the extravagant pretensions they have since developed. The Chinese circular was divided into eight heads, each proposal being accompanied by a full explanation of the reason for it, based upon actual experience. It is too long for quotation, and indeed no quotation would be fair that did not include, with the regulation proposed, the argument attached to it. The document is one and indivisible, and can only be considered as a whole. It was published as a Blue-book, the number of which I have not got, and was appended to a brochure which I published in 1892.

Whatever the defects of the Chinese circular, it was at least a tentative effort to eliminate from the missionary question the elements of danger to the State. By refusing even to consider it the Western Powers placed themselves *prima facie* in the wrong, and thus incurred pretty nearly the whole responsibility for the outbreaks which have marked the past thirty years. A cruel injury had been done to the Chinese people in forcibly opening their country to foreign missionaries without any regulations for their control, or clear definition of their status. The injury was aggravated by the refusal to listen to any suggestion for supplying the want, after the need for it had been demonstrated. The Christian nations thus owe an immense moral debt to China, a debt which is quite beyond their power to discharge. It is a question whether their conscience is sufficiently sensitive to induce them to pay even a trifling instalment. For nations have a kind of conscience, though its operation is apt to be fitful. We have heard for instance of pecuniary indemnities being exacted by one Power from another, and when found excessive the overplus has, in exceptional cases, been refunded. It would be a small reparation for the injury inflicted on China were the two great non-aggressive Protestant Powers even now to put a bridle on missionaries of their nationality and prohibit them from meddling in Chinese politics in any manner whatsoever. The missionaries enjoy liberties in the interior of China which are denied to merchants. Let them, on pain of having their privileges withdrawn, confine themselves to religious teaching, the sole ground on which they enjoy these immunities. Of course evasion would be practised, just as under the strictest preventive system smuggling is practised. Witness opium on the Canton River. But there is some virtue even in the mere stigmatising of a practice as illegal. The better class of missionaries would obey the law, those who did not would lose in repute, and one or two recalcitrants expelled from the country would at least prove on the part of their Government a desire to protect the peaceable Chinese both from the meddlers in local quarrels and from sedition-mongers on a grander scale. It is not wholly beyond the bounds of possibility that some of the more important missionary bodies themselves might be disposed to meet their Governments half way in devising means of freeing their missions from the political taint, though jealousy of competitors would no doubt stand seriously in their way.

It is not, however, for us to formulate regulations for the government of missionaries. Our ambition would be amply satisfied if the public and the Governments concerned would take thought of their moral obligations in this matter, as a preliminary step, and if the missionaries would but consider their sacred calling in a rather purer light than some of them have been disposed to do, and render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's.

It is but a very small corner of the vast and varied field of missionary enterprise that has been glanced at in this paper. There are many more aspects of the work which offer fair matter for general comment without touching at all on the province of religion or of Christian proselytising. There are practices which affect the good relations between Chinese and Foreigners, there are modes of procedure which concern decency and decorum which are quite as interesting to the lay communities of the west as to the missionary bodies themselves. The mode of acquiring land, and the ethics or aesthetics of house and church building; the attitude of missionaries towards popular customs, superstitions and ceremonies; their itinerating practices; the part assigned to women and the method of fulfilling it, in proselytising work; their treatment of the literature, and of the deities and sages of the Chinese, and numerous other items of that kind would form legitimate subjects for discussion by ordinary men and women of the world, and they are subjects which may well suggest to the missionary who approaches them with an open mind, the sources of many hindrances to the spread of Christianity no less real than that which is more appropriately called political.

HIS EXCELLENCY having invited discussion on the paper,

The Rev. W. BANNISTER said he would like to say a word or two upon the subject which had been brought before them that evening. He thought they all must be extremely indebted to Mr. Michie for the very broad and philosophic view he had taken on the whole question. He wished to speak from the point of view of the missionary. It had been his privilege to live in China for over twenty-one years, and he would like to point out for the consideration of ladies and gentlemen present some of the assumptions which, he thought, were incorrect in the lecture. They could justly venture to take exception to some of the assumptions put forward. He did not know whether he had heard correctly, but one of them which he would like to emphasise was that there had been a very universal disposition to interfere, North, South, East and West, with the political rights of officials, and the political rights of the people. He did not think justice had been done to the extremely difficult position taken up by the non-Christian population. He could give very fair instances of that in very many parts of the country. There had been a general assumption of the disposition on the part of the Protestant missionary to interfere with the legal and political customs of the country. Ninety-nine out of one hundred missionaries did not interfere to such a very great extent as had been assumed. There were certain things which came before the missionary, which he must take cognizance of, and the general argument of the lecturer was one which, he thought, must be urged more against the judgment of the missionary, than against the general principles which he adopted and which were laid down by the missionary society. Then again the assumption of the philosophic position of the non-interference on the part of the Christian nations. He considered that they, as representatives of great Christian nations, and the great forces of the West, must present to the heathen population the point of view of the permanent standing orders of that Christianity which all of them professed (Hear, Hear). He thought for the credit of men like himself, and the credit of men like his Bishop, who was not there that evening, but who had gone to Foochow, and men like Bishop Scott; men like Griffith John of Hankow, Bishop Moule of Mid China, and Mr. Muirhead of Shanghai, all of whom for many years—some of them for forty or fifty years—had laboured in China, that it was an entirely wrong assumption to maintain that they were

guided by principles of craft and double-dealing in advancing their mission. Some of them had given not only long years of service, but some of their fortunes as well for the cause they had advocated. He thanked them for their kindness in listening to him, and at the same time he would like to thank Mr. Michie for the very careful review he had given of the whole question, and the philosophic presentation of it in his lecture.

The Rev. C. BONE said he was not quite sure that he had heard the lecture distinctly, and therefore he spoke with some amount of diffidence concerning it. It seemed to him that, as far as he could hear, the assumption was that the missionaries were waiting, willing, and desiring to do everything in China except the thing they were sent to do. That was the impression to his mind which the lecturer seemed to convey, and it was sought to establish that the missionaries were constantly interfering with things which did not concern them. He had been in China for over twenty years, and knew others who had seen 30 or 40 years' service, and he seldom, if ever, heard of the interference referred to in the lecture. For himself he had only been asked to give advice twice in 20 years, and in each instance a very pleasant and amicable result had followed. There had been cases of interference brought to his notice, but they did not amount to anything like that presumed in the lecture. There had been cases brought to his notice when it was almost impossible not to interfere and he instanced one which occurred about two years ago. That was a doctor, a very respectable man with a good practice, who became a Christian. Immediately it was known he was outlawed by the villagers with whom he lived. Part of his property was claimed by a neighbour who had a grudge against him. The usual persecutions followed. The man who was seeking to take the doctor's land was advised by his wife not to proceed because the case was obviously unjust. In anger the man killed his wife, and then brought a charge of murder against the doctor. The latter at once brought the case to him (Mr. Bone) and although nothing was done for him, it was true the case was looked into, and some steps taken, but it was afterwards decided to let it alone. He (the speaker) denied that the missionaries interfered in any manner like that which had been presumed in the lecture. It had been assumed that the missionaries were in China because they were supported by gunboats and torpedo-boats. It was altogether overlooked that they could be there moved by any higher and more powerful motive, but when he thought of the lives of devoted people like Griffith John and others, he felt they were there moved by a higher power, a loftier ambition—they were there because they wished the Chinese to know that above all and beyond all, for themselves, and for every one there was a common Father.

HIS EXCELLENCY again rising said they had listened to a very able attack and a very able defence. After all, nothing could ever be lost by having a case put forward, clearly and strongly, on both sides. He thought the thanks of the meeting were due to Mr. Michie for attending there that evening. There was a great deal to be said on both sides, and he had no doubt that they who had not the experience of coming in contact with the state of affairs in the interior of China would find it very difficult sitting in their chairs at home to realise the importance of refusing to interfere in affairs that might easily be righted by tendering a little advice. But they could all realise that there might be circumstances in which no man with a human heart in his body, could refrain from interfering even though he knew that trouble would follow. The grave and terrible events of the past year had shown them that human nature was pretty much the same in China as elsewhere. He had been reading lately of the terrible trials of Mr. and Mrs. Green and their party, and was filled with admiration at the extraordinary fortitude displayed during those dreadful three weeks they were in the hands of the Chinese. But he also was struck by the fact that men had come forward, not Christians, but Boxers, and had risked their lives to assist them to escape. These men had shown in the highest degree many of those qualities which

now and again were regarded as being the exclusive property of Christian nations. Where such feelings had been shown, and where the people had evinced those qualities of sympathy, of pity and of self-sacrifice, there must always be hope for the future of China. He asked them to accord most heartily a vote of thanks to Mr. Michie for his kindness in delivering the lecture. (Applause.)

A hearty vote of thanks was then accorded to Mr. Michie, who briefly replied.

Sir JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G., proposed a vote of thanks to His Excellency for attending and presiding on the occasion, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE S.S. "SOBRAON" ASHORE.

The local Superintendent of the Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Company informed us yesterday morning at about 10 o'clock that at 11 p.m. on Thursday night a telegram was received from Mr. Armit, the third officer of the *Sobraon*, from Sharp Peak, to the following effect:—

"*Sobraon* badly stranded on Tung Yung Island 3 Wednesday morning, dense fog; probable total loss; passengers, mails saved, proceeding Pagoda Anchorage, Foochow, in junk with mails and twenty-three passengers; send *Sobraon* assistance."

A little later on this message was confirmed by the following telegram from Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., the Company's agents at Foochow:—" *Sobraon* stranded Tung Yung. Mails and some passengers Sharp Peak."

Telegraphic instructions were immediately sent to the Shanghai agency to despatch the *Coromandel* to the *Sobraon's* assistance as speedily as possible.

At 6.30 a.m. yesterday the following telegram was received from Captain Wibner, the commander of the *Sobraon*:—

"*Sobraon* on shore on Tung Yung, all compartments full. Passengers safely landed. One boat (native) with mails and some passengers left for Matsu morning of April 24th. Ship in dangerous position should wind set in strong from north or east. Crew still on board, all well; assistance urgently required."

We are indebted to Mr. F. von der Pfordten, manager of the Joint Telegraph Companies, for the following additional particulars contained in telegraphic messages:—

"Sharp Peak, 26th April."

"P. & O. mail *Sobraon* struck rocks on Western Island of Tung Yung about 35 miles from here (Sharp Peak) at 3 a.m., Wednesday morning. Junk with over twenty passengers and all mails arrived here last night. We have five passengers with us, including two ladies; rest gone Foochow. Other junks which were to have left ship shortly after first one not arrived. Ship had 16 feet water in fore-compartments when boat left, but believe supposed to be safe for time being. Weather now calm."

Mr. Warren telegraphs that the five passengers who were staying with him have now gone to Foochow. Their names are:—Captain Roope, of Jardine's, with wife and son; Mrs. Southcott, of Tientsin, with boy in her charge named Warmsley. The China Merchant steamer *Haeshin* went out to assist *Sobraon* at 7 a.m.

Immediately on receiving the news that the *Sobraon* was in such a dangerous position, Mr. H. A. Ritchie, local Superintendent of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, wired to Shanghai to despatch the *Coromandel*, the next homeward steamer, to the assistance of the stranded vessel. The *Coromandel*, according to a telegram which was received at the company's office yesterday afternoon from Shanghai, leaves early to-day with carpenters, divers and gear, pumps, cement, and timber.

In view of the message sent by Captain L. M. Wibner, R.N.R., commander of the *Sobraon*, that the ship's position was dangerous should a strong wind set in either from the north or east, it is gratifying to state that the latest advices from Foochow are to the effect that the weather is calm.

Mr. Ritchie is sending Captain F. P. Goddard, marine surveyor, of the firm of Goddard and Douglas, to report on the position of the vessel, and to render assistance in the work of

saving her. Captain Goddard, whose passage home had been taken by the *Sobraon*, leaves by the *Ballaarat* to-day.

Mr. Ritchie approached Commodore Powell to send a torpedo-boat to the *Sobraon's* assistance, but unfortunately no such vessel could be spared. Mr. Ritchie then telegraphed to the naval authorities at Shanghai, preferring the same request. A torpedo-boat, besides generally attending on the stranded steamer, would be of the greatest service as a despatch vessel, as communication with Foochow difficult, and everything depends on the promptitude of the salvage measures.

Regarding the mails, Mr. Ritchie stated that, happening as it did, the accident to the *Sobraon* left him no time to find another vessel in the P. & O. fleet to take on the mails, and as a consequence they will have to be sent by the German mail leaving on Wednesday. Mr. Ritchie has arranged with Messrs. Douglas, Lapraik & Co., general managers of the Douglas Steamship Line, that the steamer *Haitan* shall bring the mails from Foochow in time to transfer them to the homeward German mail, the *Princess Irene*.

A few details regarding the *Sobraon* will doubtless at this time prove interesting. The steamer, a sister ship to the *Plassy*, was built in 1900 and launched in the same year. Her registered tonnage is 7,382 tons, and she has an indicated horse-power of 6,500 tons. Her length is 450 feet and her breadth 54 feet. The *Sobraon* was only recently added to the P. & O. Co.'s fleet in Eastern waters, and when she stranded on Tung Yung Island was making her second trip home.

Later.

From enquiries made at the office of the P. & O. Company just before we went to press, we learnt that the *Sobraon's* position was unchanged and that the weather was still calm. All the passengers and mails had been safely landed. Two steamers have gone to stand by the *Sobraon*.

According to our Shanghai correspondent, H.M.S. *Astraea* and the *Coromandel* were to leave for the scene at daylight to-day.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE FAR EAST.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* calls attention editorially to the recent substantial increase of the Russian naval force in Eastern waters; and in a separate article publishes the following as comprising the men-of-war now available or due at Port Arthur from Europe within the next few days:—

1st Class Battleships.

	Displacement: Tons.	Complement.
<i>Petropavlovsk</i>	10,960	623
<i>Poltava</i>	10,960	623
<i>Sevastopol</i>	10,960	623

2nd Class Battleships.

<i>Navarin</i>	9,476	652
<i>Sissoi Veliki</i>	8,880	586

Armoured Cruisers.

<i>Vladimir Monomach</i>	5,754	404
<i>Dimitri Donskoi</i>	5,796	505
<i>Admiral Nachimoff</i>	7,787	570
<i>Rurik</i>	10,933	688
<i>Rosia</i>	12,195	838
<i>Gromoboi</i>	12,359	814

1st Class Cruiser.

<i>Admiral Korniloff</i>	5,029	478
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2nd Class Cruiser.

<i>Rasbournik</i>	1,334	177
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Seagoing Gunboats.

<i>Gremiashtchi</i>	1,492	188
<i>Orpenny</i>	1,402	188
<i>Gulak</i>	963	150
<i>Kavets</i>	1,213	179
<i>Mandechur</i>	1,224	179
<i>Sivotsch</i>	950	170
<i>Rube</i>	950	170

Unprotected Cruiser.

<i>Sabiraka</i>	1,283	155
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Torpedo Cruisers.

<i>Vladsk</i>	400	64
<i>Gaidamak</i>	400	64
<i>Lieutenant Burakoff (Taku)</i>	250	35

In addition there are coming at least twelve torpedo-boats of the first class, but the exact number on the way cannot be given. Three,

the *Kit, Som* and *Delphin*, arrived in Hongkong on the 19th inst. Eight torpedo-boats, viz., the *Kondor* and Nos. 201 to 207 already belong to the so-called Siberian fleet. Counting for the torpedo-boats a complement of 250 men and a total displacement of 2,400 tons, we find that Russia has 36 men-of-war, entirely modern, with a displacement of over 125,000 tons and a complement of 9,400 men, in East Asiatic waters.

H.E. TAO MU'S LETTER TO SINGAPORE.

The following is the letter of H.E. the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs to the Chinese Consul-General at Singapore:—

It is reported that about the close of last year a large body of men, natives of Honan, left Hongkong and Shanghai and are now staying with Chiu Suk Yuen (Khoo Seok Wan) and Lin Wen Ching (Dr. Lim Boon Keng) in Singapore. I have heard also that Chiu has collected a large sum of money in Burma and Siam and has sent men to unite the rioters of Canton in a conspiracy against the government. Upon investigation I found that Chiu and Lin are natives of Fohkien and have been regarded as peaceable men.

Fohkien province borders on Kwangtung. Now it seems most unreasonable that these men should conspire with rioters with a view to creating trouble in their native states. I request you to have this matter secretly and carefully investigated and to send me a detailed report.

I add the following words which I hope you will make very plain to these men. I have learned that Chiu Suk Yuen (Khoo Seok Wan) received the second literary degree in Fohkien and is now editor of a daily paper in Singapore. Lin Wen Ching (Dr. Lim Boon Keng) was educated at a University in Edinburgh. Both of these men have classical attainments and are well known to Foreigners and Chinese. They may have gone to Singapore because of their being unable to find any official appointment in China. The body of men who have joined them from Honan province may be reformers or may be friends of Kang and Leung, or they may have done something in connection with Tang Chye Siang and have fled to Singapore in order to escape punishment. Again, they may have gone to this place in order to carry out their new ideas because China does not wish reform. This grievance I have long been aware of, and taking the present situation of China into consideration, who is there, possessing sense and knowledge, who does not consider the reformation of China of the greatest importance? Now those who wish to reform intend to render an important service to their country and strengthen China. But if they conspire with rioters to carry out their wishes by force, their efforts will result in no good and they themselves will be branded as rebels. Moreover, if cruelty be inflicted upon the people and great trouble be brought upon the country, foreign powers will seize the opportunity to interfere. The reformers must ask themselves how they could cause this trouble to the Empire. They, as I know, have no intention of causing China any trouble, nevertheless China will be greatly disturbed by such conduct on their part, and give opportunity to the conservatives (anti-reformers) to call the reformers rebels, men of bad reputation, and persons to get rid of by any means. The result will be that the reformers themselves will thus put a stop to reformation. If the reformers will take these things into consideration they will be grieved and anxious.

Moreover, H. M. the Emperor, having the strongest desire for reforms, issued in the 11th moon of the 26th year of Kwang Hsu an Edict: ordering the Ministers of the Capital and the different Provinces to have the methods of reformation submitted to careful consideration and thorough consultation. The ministers in the provinces have replied by memorial. The treaty of peace is to be concluded, the Court is to return to Peking, new ways of ruling the country will undoubtedly be adopted and every thing useful will be carried into effect. To do this many capable men will be required; Chiu and Lin and others having been well educated

and being of great ability should hereafter serve the Government. Those who are ordered to be arrested by the Imperial Edict are Kang and Leung. Nothing concerns the other scholars or reformers, even those who have been concerned in the guilt of Kang and Leung will be excused and employed by the Government if they repent and change their methods. But if they cause future trouble to the country, their bodies, and the inheritance of their honored parents, will be lost. I feel great compassion for them. From olden times until now the heroes and men of talent, who could not secure the adoption of their ideas, though they would not serve the Government, generally remained at home and wrote books for the instruction of the younger generation. Had they rushed into danger, trying to enforce their views by force of arms, they would have destroyed themselves.

You, the said Consul General, have resided in Singapore for many years and have gained the confidence of all the Chinese there, and being a native of Fohkien, a fellow provincial of Chiu and Lin, therefore it will be an easy matter to convey my views to them and to secure for them a careful hearing. Tell them to seek for good fortune and to avoid mischief, not to make any rough attempt to carry their wishes by force. This is indeed very essential.

HONGKONG.

The Russian torpedo-boats *Kasatka* and *Skat* arrived from Cronstadt via Saigon on the 23rd inst., and the *Kit* and *Som* departed for Shanghai.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Assistant Superintendent of Police, goes to India on the 24th inst. by the steamer *Lightning* for a year's study of police duties in the Punjab.

The body of Walter Pugh, the stoker on H.M.S. *Humber* who was drowned whilst bathing in Taiwan Bay, Kowloon, on the 21st inst., was recovered on the 23rd inst. and taken to the mortuary.

On the 21st inst. the British hospital-ship *Gwalior* left for Shanghai and the U.S. gunboat *Luzon* for Port Townsend. H.M.S. *Lizard* left on the 22nd inst. for Hoihow and the U.S. gunboat *Yorktown* for Manila.

In the programme of work at the dockyard at Portsmouth for the next financial year is the refit of the *Centurion* (battleship), at an estimated cost of £37,099, and of the *Hermione* (cruiser) at £14,099.

Among the departures by the *Empress of India* on the 24th inst. was the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, who is now convalescent and goes to Japan for a holiday. Mr. A. Michie left by the same boat for England.

The return of stamp revenue for the first quarters of 1900 and 1901 shows an increase in 1901 of \$13,980.30. The principal items which made this up were:—Conveyance or Assignment, \$11,719.45; Settlement, \$1,524.60; Bill of Lading, \$1,504.30; Mortgage, \$1,135.60. The principal decreases were:—Transfer of Shares, \$1,666.70; Power of Attorney, \$1,657.94.

In January last we started a subscription on behalf of the widow and family of the ill-fated schoolmaster, Yeung Ku Wan, who, our readers are already aware, was cruelly murdered in his class-room. The family is now leaving the colony, and we had the pleasure on Tuesday of handing over to the daughter of Yeung Ku Wan the sum of \$160, being the balance of the money received by us. The subscription is now closed.

Anent the paragraph which appeared in our issue of the 23rd inst. re Mr. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., and the Bank of China and Japan, Ltd., we were in error when we stated that Mr. Belilios was formally arrested a few hours before his departure for Europe, pending the deposit of a sum sufficient to cover the amounts sued for. An application was made for a warrant for his arrest in the usual way, but it was refused on Mr. Belilios making an affidavit that he would retain in the colony sufficient property to recover any decree that might be made against him in the suit. The Bank of China and Japan, Ltd., sued Mr. Belilios for the sum of £5,425 sterling.

It is stated that H.M.S. *Eclipse* is to relieve H.M.S. *Hermione* on this station.

Consul Volpicelli and several Italian naval officers returned from an official visit to the Canton authorities on the 22nd inst.

On the 19th inst. the Russian torpedo-boats *Kit*, *Delphin*, and *Som* arrived from Saigon on their way north. On the 22nd inst. the British hospital-ship *Gualior* came down from Taku.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week included 438 non-Chinese and 135 Chinese to the former institution and 170 non-Chinese and 2,052 Chinese to the latter.

During 1900, 2,004 summonses were issued by the Medical Officer of Health, or by the Prosecuting Inspector acting under his instructions, and 1,824 convictions were obtained. Penalties amounting to \$13,041 were inflicted.

A Chinaman employed on the building operations at the Japanese Bank on the Reclamation fell from a scaffolding on the 20th inst. and died in the Tung Wah Hospital from the injuries he sustained.

Several Chinese shipwrights employed at the Naval Yard were bathing on the 19th inst. in the harbour at Kowloon, opposite the Naval Depot, when one suddenly sank and was drowned. His body has not yet been recovered.

No cases of communicable disease were reported in the Colony last week apart from plague and small-pox. The week's figures for these two diseases were—plague, 24 cases (21 in Victoria), 21 deaths; small-pox, 4 cases (3 in Victoria) one death. Three of the small-pox cases were Chinese and one Portuguese.

The Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce notified us on the 19th inst. that the Chamber had been informed by the Government of the receipt of a notification from the Bengal Government to the effect that plague restrictions will be enforced at Chittagong against arrivals from Taiwan.

The return of deaths in the Colony during March shows 32 deaths in the European and Foreign Community (19 Civil, 12 Army, 1 Navy) and 421 in the Chinese Community, making a total of 453 for the month. 101 of these were due to chest affections and 110 to various fevers (plague 48, malaria 34, small-pox 26). The principal death-rates were:—British and Foreign Civil Population, 24.4 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese Community, Victoria, Land 20.6 and Harbour 15.1; Chinese, whole Colony, Land 18.9, Boat 15.9, Land and Boat 18.5; total Civil Community 18.7.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Straits Times* understands that there is more trouble at Brunei, where recent disturbances were thought to have satisfactorily settled down.

Commander Cradock, R.N., of H.M.S. *Alacrity*, has received news of his promotion to the rank of captain. He is to be relieved by Commander Seymour E. Erskine, now of H.M.S. *Dido*.

The East Asiatic Trading Co. informed us on the 24th inst. that they were in receipt of a telegram from Ningpo from the captain of the s.s. *Hainan* reading as follows:—"Hainan total loss, Taichow Islands; passengers, crew saved."

The Annamite militia, who were brought to assist in the defence of the French Settlements at Shanghai during the scare of last year, departed from Shanghai on the 18th inst. to Woosung, where they joined the *Oceanic*, which conveys them to Hanoi.

The rough total of the recent Pahang census comes to 83,500 odd, being an increase of some 20,500 over the 1891 figures. In the State Annual Report for 1898 the population was estimated at 80,000, so that the increase during the two succeeding years is on a somewhat lower ratio than that during the previous eight.

A settlement of Presbyterian Chinese from Foochow has been formed at Sibn, Sarawak. The settlers style their place "New Foochow," and are the pioneers of a large colony of agriculturalists, which is being organised by Mr. Nai Siong, with some assistance from the Sarawak Government. The population is now five hundred men, women and children, but this number will soon be increased by new arrivals from China.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 6th and 13th inst.:—The escape of a small party of foreign infants and their amahs from mortal injuries while on the hill on Thursday afternoon (4th inst.) was little short of miraculous. A ferocious water-buffalo charged the group, and it was only through the presence of mind and nimbleness of the amahs that they managed to get out of his path, leaving only the perambulator to receive the brunt of his attack. The complete destruction of the little carriage showed how the party would have fared had they not been able to move so promptly away. The animal's keeper ran up in time to prevent further damage. For the future buffaloes will not be allowed on the hill within certain limits.—The Glen line steamer *Glenahiel* is advertised to carry the first of the new season's tea to London. The date of her sailing has not been fixed. Last year she left on the 10th June.—There is to be a Flower Show this year which we understand will take place about the end of the month. These shows used to be very popular in Foochow and we feel sure that the revival of them will give general satisfaction.—We learn that arrangements have been made by the French to ship a considerable number of coolies from this port to Madagascar. This will relieve a poor province of some of its surplus population and must be regarded as a good thing.—John H. Fesler, Esq., of Colorado has been appointed U.S. Consul at Amoy in place of Mr. A. B. Johnson, resigned.—Mr. Henry Edgar, Commissioner of Customs, just returned from leave, has been appointed to Shasi.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 13th April.—Taslees.—No settlements are reported. Re-reels.—A few lots No. 1 & No. 2 are said to have been settled, but no details have transpired. Filatures.—Continued to be in good demand, the drop in Exchange facilitating business. Prices continue irregular, 6th crop Silk fetching comparatively light prices. Quotations are as follow from prices paid:—\$785 for 11/13 Kwong Shun Hang, Kwong Shun Cheong and Miu Kin Lun, \$760 for Kwong Shun Ching 11/13, \$745 for King Seng 11/13 and Kwong Hang Cheong 9/11, \$735 for Kum Lun Tai 11/13, \$730 for Wing Ching Cheong 10/12, \$720 for King Shing's Gold Lion 13/15, and Cheong Kee 9/11, \$715 for King Lun Tai 9/11, \$710 for Kwong King Cheong 9/11, \$705 for Wing King Lun 11/13 and Kwong Wo Hang 12/14, \$700 for Po King Cheong 11/13, \$695 for Shun Kee 13/15, \$697 for Kwong Shun Tai 10/11, \$690 for Chung Sun Hang 16/18, \$685 for Kwong Sing 13/15, \$680 for Wing Shing Lun 13/15, \$677 for Yut Cheong Wo 10/12, \$675 for Kai Cheong Loong 10/12, \$670 for Kwong Hing Lun 11/13 and Hau King Cheong 13/15, \$665 for Hing Loong Cheong 10/12, \$655 to \$650 for Wai King Wo 18/22, \$650 for King Lun Sang 11/13, \$647 for Yu Yee Cheong 18/22, \$645 to \$640 for Victoria 18/22, \$635 for Kwai King Lun 26/30, \$632 for 11/13 Tung Hing and Hing Lun, \$630 for Luen King 18/22, \$625 for Wong Yuk Kee 16/20, \$610 for Tung Hing and Hing Lun 13/15, \$590 for Tai Hing Lun 13/15. Short-reels.—Purchases have been confined chiefly to one firm, a few hundred bales of 3rd and 4th crop Silk having been placed at comparatively low prices. Waste.—Has been in little inquiry both for Europe and America, and prices continued weak and irregular. Appended are quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 1/11½, and Fca. 2.50 per Dollar.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	45,461	61,690
Yokohama	—	—
	45,461	61,690

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	8,151	17,721
Yokohama	—	—
	8,151	17,721

CAMPOR.

Hongkong, 26th April.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 26th April.—The position of the market is the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.80 to \$8.85 per
do. " 2, White.....	7.95 to 8.00 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	8.90 to 8.95 "
do. " 2, Brown	8.51 to 8.55 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.75 to 8.80 "
do. " 1, White.....	7.60 to 7.65 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown	8.85 to 8.90 "
do. " 2, Brown	8.75 to 8.80 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	13.35 to 13.37 "
Shekloong "	12.75 to 12.80 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Ernest Simon*, sailed on the 8th April. For Marseilles:—250 bales raw silk, 6 cases silks, 77 pkgs. tea, 5 cases curio, 1 case wine. For Lyons:—558 bales raw silk. For Havre:—15 cases paper.

Per steamer *Bamberg*, sailed on the 12th April. For Havre:—2 cases essential oil; 2 cases preserves, 6 cases bambooware, 18 cases leafans, 20 bales canes, 20 bales matting, 25 cases blackwoodware, 30 cases bristles, 84 cases Chinaware, 100 cases staranised. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—8 cases blackwoodware. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—62 cases bristles. For Hamburg:—20 cases essential oil, 25 cases sundries, 25 cases staranised, 37 bales canes, 125 rolls matting, 375 pkgs. fire crackers. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—25 cases bristles. For Hamburg and/or London:—101 pkgs. canes. For Lisbon:—49 cases Chinaware.

Per steamer *Chusan*, sailed on the 18th April. For London:—10 bales raw silk, 6 cases silks, 10 cases cigars, 18 rolls mats & matting, 7 cases Chinaware, 3 cases effects, 5 cases curio and effects, 1 case grass cloth, 2 boxes treasure value \$100,000, 108 bales waste silk ppt. Manchester, 80 pkgs. tea, 2 cases cigars from Manila, 2 cases blackwoodware, 15 cases bamboo fans, 1 case books, 15 chests opium, 1 box jewellery. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—508 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—264 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk, 5 cases silks.

Per P. & O. steamer *Candia*, sailed on the 18th April. For London:—50 bales waste silk ppt. Manchester, 85 bales waste silk ppt. Goble, 26 cases canes, 9 cases effects, 1 box cigars, 1 box chutnies, 20 pkgs. dry preserves, 12 cases woodware, 26 cases Chinaware, 440 rolls mats and matting, 2 boxes curio, 2 boxes preserves, 1 box brassware, 1 box sundries. For Glasgow:—3 cases blackwoodware. For Manchester:—135 bales waste silk.

Per Imperial German Mail steamer *Konig Albert*, sailed on the 17th April. For Colombo:—20 rolls matting. For Suez:—1 case blackwoodware. For Trieste:—250 boxes casia, 10 bales rattanahaving. For Genoa:—267 bales raw silk, 9 cases fans, 4 cases porcelain. For Antwerp:—12 bales canes, 10 cases feathers. For Antwerp/Hamburg/London:—170 bales feathers, 15 boxes human hair. For Amsterdam:—3 boxes bambooware, 3 boxes eggware, 2 boxes camphorwoodtrunks. For Amsterdam/Rotterdam:—50 boxes casia, 3 boxes leather, 1 box matting. For Rotterdam:—10 bales canes, 7 bales Chinagram, 6 cases Chinaware, 1 case pongee. For Bremen:—221 rolls matting, 6 boxes feathers. For Bremen/Hamburg:—31 bales canes. For Hamburg:—31 bales canes, 50 cases preserves, 30 cases essential oil, 17 cases blackwoodware, 10 cases earthenware, 2 boxes silk, 1 case preserves. For Copenhagen:—10 boxes preserves, 5 cases preserves, 5 cases soy.

OPIMUM.

Hongkong, 26th April.—Bengal continued quiet during the first part of the week, and prices receded to Patna \$927½, Old Benares \$935, subsequently a fair inquiry set in, and prices recovered to Patna \$932½ and Old Benares \$938. New Benares was placed at \$935 to \$938½. Malwa.—There is practically nothing doing in this drug. Only a few chests of 2 years' old were booked at \$890 per picul. Quotations for other descriptions remain nominally unchanged.

Persian.—More purchases of good quality have been made by the Japanese at \$810 per picul.

Stock.

Patna.....	1,216
Benares.....	165
Malwa.....	554
Persian.....	2,890

COTTON.

Hongkong, 26th April.—Market steady only for superior qualities. Others more or less neglected. Stock, about 11,000 bales.

Bombay.....	17.00 to 19.00 picul
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } and Dacca,.....	18.00 to 21.25 "
Shanghai and Japanese, ...	22.00 to 24.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,	22.00 to 24.00 "
Sale, 500 bales.	

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 26th April.—The long expected Spring demand has at last made its appearance, and during the past fortnight close upon 12,000 bales are reported to have changed hands, particulars of which are noted below. Values have further appreciated one to three Dollars per bale, and the aspect of the market at the close points to the maintenance of the advance. Dealers have somewhat satisfied their requirements, and as exchange is in their favour, are now keeping aloof in hopes of forcing the hands of holders. Business has consequently again become quiet, but the market may be said to close firmer, with an improved prospect. Best spinnings are in short supply and one or two favourite chops would be taken at an advance on quotations; medium and common threads from the bulk of present stocks and holders will concede a little in price to induce sales.

Local Manufacture.—Local mill products are firmer all round and sales of 600 bales have transpired at an advance of 50 cents to a Dollar and a half per bale, say 100 bales No. 10s., at from \$85 to \$86; 235 bales No. 12s., at from \$86 to \$87, and 265 bales No. 10s., at from \$93 to \$94.

Japanese Spinings.—Are easier, but supplies are still conspicuous by their absence, the only business of the fortnight being contracts for about 700 bales May-June delivery of Kanegafuchi No. 16s., at \$104, Settau No. 20s., at \$107, and Aahai No. 20s., at \$108.

Raw Cotton.—There is no change in the continued quietness of this market. Stocks of Indian descriptions are steadily accumulating by incessant arrivals, and importers are vigorously pressing sales without leading to any significant business. Sales reported are 75 bales Bengal at \$19, 25 bales at \$20, and a choice parcel of 100 bales superfine machine-ginned at \$21, leaving in stock about 10,000 bales, after deducting about 1,500 bales recently exported to Japan. With the exception of 100 bales Thoongchow sold at \$22, there has been nothing doing in China Cotton. Unsold stock about 500 bales. Quotations are:—Indian \$17 to \$21, and Chinese \$22 to \$24.

Exchange on India, after having touched Rs. 150 during the interval, closes to-day at Rs. 147 for T/T and Rs. 147½ for post. On Shanghai 72½ and on Yokohama 2½ per cent. premium.

The under noted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the small interval of five days, say from the 7th to 12th instant, viz:—

Indian.—Total sales 5,963 bales comprising 2,843 bales No. 10s., 215 bales No. 12s., 50 bales No. 14s., 1,540 bales No. 16s., and 1,315 bales No. 20s., prices showing an advance of fully one Tael and market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock 25,000 bales.

Japanese.—Firmness of holders restricting business. Total sales about 1,000 bales No. 16s., and 20s., on the basis of Tls. 78 to 79½ for the former and Tls. 79½ to 87 for the latter, rates showing a rise of half to one Tael and market closing steady. Stocks nil.

Local.—A good enquiry has continued and sales to the extent of nearly 5,000 bales have been effected at an advance of two Taels on previous quotations, market closing very strong.

COALS.

Hongkong, 26th April.—Small sales of Japanese at quotations:—

Cardiff.....	\$29.00 sellers ex ship
Australian.....	\$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal
Yamato Lump.....	\$11.00 ex godown, nominal
Miki Lump.....	\$10.
Moji Lump.....	\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double } strengthened.....	10.50 ex godown
Hongay Lump.....	8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust.....	5.50
Beiquettes.....	14.50 ex godown

RICE.

Hongkong, 26th April.—The prices are declining, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.55 to 2.60
" Round, Good quality.....	2.70 to 2.75
" Long.....	3.15 to 3.20
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....	2.05 to 2.70
" Garden, No. 1.....	3.25 to 3.30
" White.....	3.70 to 3.75
" Fine Cargo.....	4.00 to 4.05

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 26th April.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 1,550 bales No. 10 at \$80 to \$99, 800 bales No. 12 at \$87.50 to \$90.50, 450 bales No. 16 at \$96 to \$101, 1,950 bales No. 20 at \$96.50 to \$100. Long Ells: 60 pieces 7 lb. Scarlet Man and Horse at \$6.45, 60 pieces 7 lb. Scarlet Man and Horse at \$6.45.

COTTON YARN—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	per bale	\$76.00 to \$109.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....		114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....		120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....		136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....		155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.....	2.10 to 2.15
" 7 lbs.....	2.40 to 2.50
" 8.4 lbs.....	2.80 to 3.50
" 9 to 10 lbs.....	3.60 to 4.40
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.50 to 2.75
" 58 to 60 ".....	3.15 to 4.00
" 64 to 66 ".....	4.20 to 5.50
" Fine.....	5.10 to 7.75
" Book-folds.....	4.30 to 6.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.50
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	1.70 to 1.85
" 7lbs. (32 ").....	1.90 to 2.20
" 6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.....	1.90 to 2.15
" 7lbs. (32 ").....	2.75 to 3.60
" 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.).....	2.80 to 3.50
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.....	4.20 to 7.00

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.....	1.55 to 5.00
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Brocades—Dyed.....

Chintzes—Assorted.....	0.08½ to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.22½ to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.....	0.20 to 0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk.....

WOOLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.80 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.25 to 2.50

Long Ells—Scarlet.....

Assorted.....	6.40 to 10.00
Camlets—Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10
Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00

METALS—

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } Assorted.....	8.00 to 20.00
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Orleans—Plain.....

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.....	4.00 to 18.00
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Iron—Nail Rod.....

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.).....	4.50 to —
Swedish Bar.....	4.25 to —
Small Round Rod.....	5.75 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.....	4.60 to —
Wire 15/25.....	5.25 to —
Old Wire Rope.....	8.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop.....	2.50 to —
Australian.....	8.80 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.....	8.70 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.....	41.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.....	41.00 to —
New Chops 14/20 oz.....	— to —
Composition Nails.....	63.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	43.00 to —
Tin.....	69.00 to —

Tin-Plates.....

Steel ½ to ¾.....	7.00 to —
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per cwt. case

Steel ½ to ¾.....	5.80 to —
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VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Sobraon (str.), Canton (str.), Calchas (str.), Ajax (str.), Antenor (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Ulysses (str.), Pyrrhus (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Yarra (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Princess Irene (str.), Konigsberg (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Konigsberg (str.), Segovia (str.), Ambria (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Gisela (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Tartar (str.), Olympia (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON).—Knight Companion (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Gaelic (str.), Hongkong Maru (str.), City of Peking (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Fernand (str.), Astoria (str.).

FOR SAN DIEGO.—Carlisle City (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Yawala Maru (str.), Guthrie (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Kagoshima Maru (str.).

VERNON & SMYTH'S SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 26th April.—Since our last report a good general business has been transacted at full rates, but towards the close there is a tendency to weakness in one or two lines affected by the approach of the settlement.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been placed at advancing rates up to \$384 per cent. premium for cash, but are now somewhat quieter at \$382 per cent. premium. The London rate has advanced to £61 10s. 0d. Nationals have improved to \$27, at which there are buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—The demand for Unions continues, but in spite of an advance in the rate to \$310 shares do not seem to be obtainable. China Traders have been placed at \$57, and are now wanted at \$57½. Cantons have been sold, and are wanted at \$165. The unfortunate stranding of the P. & O. s.s. *Sobraon* reported to-day has not, so far, had any visible effect on stocks under this head.

FIRE INSURANCES.—An unsatisfied demand for Hongkong Fires has raised the rate to \$335, but shares do not appear to be obtainable at the figure. China Fires have been sold and are wanted at \$85.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been placed in moderate quantities at \$35. A demand for the stock continues, but buyers are endeavouring to get in at \$34½. Indo-Chinas have continued in request, and sales have been effected up to \$131 cash. At the close there are a few sellers for the settlement at \$129. China Manilas (old) are wanted at \$65, and the new shares are obtainable at \$52 cum the call of \$10 recently paid. Douglasses have been done at \$50 to \$51 and close with further buyers at the latter rate. Star Ferries (old) have been done at \$24 and are wanted. For the new shares \$9½ is offering. Shells are obtainable at £3.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been placed at \$136, but have since weakened to \$135.

MINING.—Punjoms (ordinary) have been sold, and have further buyers at \$5½. Preferences have been placed at \$1.20. Raubs are wanted at \$39. Jebebus have been placed and have buyers at \$5. Queen Mines sold at 8 cents.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued in favour, and sales up to \$290 cash have been effected. At the close a few shares are perhaps to be had at \$287½ for the settlement. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been sold at \$10½, at which more shares can be had. Wanchais are in the market at \$63. New Amoy Docks can be placed at \$22½.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled somewhat erratic. At the close there are a few buyers at \$198. West Points are obtainable at \$53. Kowloon Lands are quiet at \$30. Humphreys' Estates are wanted at \$13½. Hongkong Hotels have been sold at \$121, \$122, and are still in demand at \$123. For August fair sales are reported at \$130.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have improved to \$46, at which there are buyers. Hongkong Cottons have been sold, and are still wanted at \$7½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been sold at \$18½ and \$18.70, and there are further buyers at the former rate. China Borneos are wanted at \$38. Watsons are obtainable at \$17. Ices have improved to \$167 and are wanted at the rate. Tramways can be placed at \$225. China Providents have been sold at \$9.15 and more shares could probably be had at the rate. Electricians have sellers at \$12½ and \$6.90 for the old and new shares respectively. MAMOS.—The Wanchai Warehouse & Storage Co., Limited, advertise an extraordinary general meeting for the 2nd May to elect a consulting committee.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ 382 p. ct. prem. = [5602] L'don, £61 10s.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	£1	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	\$1.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38, buyers.
China Light & Power } Co., Ltd.	\$20	20, nominal
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9.15, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$135.
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra, Limited..	\$500	\$1,500, buyers
La Commercial, Ltd..	\$500	\$1.0 0, buyers
Hensiana, Limited..	\$100	\$100, buyers
La Favorita, Ltd. ...	\$500	\$1.0 0, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 46, buyers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 325.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Hongkong	\$100	\$7½, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$7, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$18½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$135, buyers
Hongkong Electric }	\$10	\$124, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$6.9½, sellers
Hk. Steam Water }	\$5	\$25, buyers
-boat Co., Ltd.		\$7.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$123, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$167, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$102, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$157½.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$287½.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$165, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$57, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$335, buyers
North China	£25	Tls. 182½.
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$310, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$198, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$13½, buyers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$30.
West Point Building	\$50	\$53, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$39, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$300, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$5.20, sales & buys.
Queen's Mines, Ltd....	25c.	8 cents, sales
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$1½, sellers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$1.50.
Punjom	\$9	\$5½, buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.20, sales
Raubs	18	\$39, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$63	\$22½, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$80, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila }	\$50	\$65, buyers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	\$52, cum call, sells.
China Ordinary	£10	£12.
Do.	£5	£7.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$51, buyers
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$34½, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$129, sellers
Shell Transport and }	£1	£3, sellers
Trading Co.		
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$24, sales & byrs. (\$9), buyers
Tehran Planting Co....	\$5	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	\$63, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$17, sellers
Universal Trading }	\$5	\$20, nominal
Co., Ltd.		

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 26th April.

ON LONDON.—EXCHANGE.

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11½

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.48
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.52½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.01½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	48½
Credits, 60 days' sight	49½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	147
Bank, on demand	147½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	147
Bank, on demand	147½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	2½ p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	118½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 p.c. pm.
ON HANGKOK.—	
On demand	60½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.02
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	52
BAR SILVER per oz.	27½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 26th April.—Freights coastwise are weaker. Saigon to Hongkong, a small carrier has been closed at 25 cents, which appears to fill present requirements; to Philippines, 41 cents per picul is offered, but for steamers of 18,000 piculs, 44 cents per picul is obtainable; to Java, a medium sized steamer might be placed at 36 cents per picul. Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents nominal. Bangkok to Hongkong, 35 and 30 cents per picul firm. Japan coal freights.—Mojito this, S/2.75; to Singapore, \$3 per ton.

The following are the settlements:—

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 42 cents per picul.
China—German steamer, 1,271 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 42 cents per picul.

Tsintau—German steamer, 1,002 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 41 cents per picul.

An Indo-China Steam Navigation Company's steamer, Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul.
Babelsberg—German steamer, 1,379 tons, Moji to Swatow, \$3.50 per ton.

Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,519 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 35 and 30 cents per picul.

Charles Rogier—Belgian steamer, 1,556 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 32½ and 27½ cents per picul.

Eva—German steamer, 2,088 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 33 and 27 cents per picul.

Hinsang—British steamer, 1,536 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 27 cents per picul.

Taicheong—German steamer, 937 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Sarnia—German steamer, 2,052 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21 cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Saigon to Iloilo and for Cebu, 43 cents one port, 46 cents two ports.

Independent—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to Iloilo and for Cebu, 42 cents one port, 45 cents two ports.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 45 cents per picul.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Saigon to two ports Philippines, 44 cents per picul.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to Iloilo and Hongkong, 68½ cents per picul.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April—

ARRIVALS.

19, Kit, Russian torpedo-boat, from Saigon.
19, Delphin, Rus. torpedo-boat, from Saigon.
19, Som, Russian torpedo-boat, from Saigon.
19, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
19, Amigo, German str., from Saigon.
19, Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.
19, Pakshan, British str., from Bangkok.
19, Nanyang, German str., from Saigon.
19, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.

21, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
20, Gwalior, British hospital ship, from Taku.
20, Chiyuen, Amr. str., from Shanghai.
20, Macedonia, British str., from Canton.
20, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Foochow.
21, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
20, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Saigon.
20, Yuko Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
21, Indus, French str., from Marseilles.
21, Oceanien, French str., from Shanghai.
21, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
21, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
21, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
21, Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
22, Richmond Castle, British str., from Japan.
22, Hansa, German str., from Saigon.
22, Benvorlich, British str., from London.
22, Macduff, British str., from Moji.
22, Tetartos, German str., from Java.
22, Kwangse, British str., from Wuhu.
23, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
23, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
23, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
23, Kasatka, Rus. torpe lo-boat, from Saigon.
23, Skat, Russian torpedo-boat, from Saigon.
23, Deuteros, German str., from Sourabaya.
23, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from Karatsu.
23, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
23, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from London.
23, Victoria, Swedish str., from Bangkok.
23, Szachuen, British str., from Canton.
23, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
23, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
23, Zafiro, U.S. des. ves., from Manila.
24, Taksang, British str., from Bangkok.
24, Tailee, German str., from Saigon.
24, Kashing, British str., from Tientsin.
24, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
24, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'chinotau.
24, Hailoong, British str., from Haiphong.
24, Hsieh Ho, German str., from Canton.
24, Wosang, British str., from Canton.
24, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
24, Nanchang, British str., from Saigon.
24, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.
24, Pakhoi, British str., from Wuhu.
25, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
25, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
25, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
25, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
25, Shantung, German str., from Swatow.
25, Chiyuen, American str., from Canton.
25, Lyeamoon, German str., from Canton.
25, Centurion, Brit. battleship from Woosung.
25, Glenshiel, British str., from Tacoma.
25, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Y'hama.
26, Meade, U.S. transport, from Manila.
23, Fausang, British str., from Java.
26, Salhadji, Dutch str., from Langkat.
26, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
26, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
26, Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
26, Ballasrat, British str., from London.
26, Segovia, German str., from Hamburg.
26, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.

April—

DEPARTURES.

20, Calchas, British str., for Shanghai.
20, Babelsberg, Ger. str., for Kutchinotau.
20, Shantung, British str., for Hongay.
20, Chwunshan, British str., for Amoy.
21, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
21, Skarpsno, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
21, Chiyuen, American str., for Canton.
21, Chas. Rogier, British str., for Bangkok.
21, Eva, German str., for Bangkok.
21, Macedonia, British str., for Shanghai.
21, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
21, Obi, British str., for Moji.
21, Gwalior, British hosp. ship, for Shanghai.
21, Luzon, Amr. schr., for Port Townsend.
21, Gisela, Austrian str., for Yokohama.
22, Indus, French str., for Shanghai.
22, Oceanien, French str., for Eur. pe.
22, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
22, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
22, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
22, Yorktown, U.S. gunboat, for Manila.
22, Lizard, British p-bt., for Hailow.
23, America Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
23, Delphin, Rus. torpedo-boat, for Shanghai.
23, Kit, Russian torpedo-boat, for Shanghai.
23, Som, Russian torpedo-boat, for Shanghai.
23, Richmond Castle, Brit. str., for New York.
23, Buckingham, British str., for Tacoma.
23, Socotra, British str., for Shanghai.
23, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
23, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
23, Fushun, British str., for Shanghai.

23, Nanyang, German str., for Chefoo.
 23, Eva, German str., for Bangkok.
 23, Hiroshima Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 23, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 23, Madagascar, British bark, for Portland.
 23, H. C. Smith, Amr. schr., for Saipan.
 23, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 23, Teinan, British str., for Sydney.
 24, Empress of India, Brit. str., for V'conver.
 24, Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 24, Yuko Maru, Japanese str., for Chefoo.
 24, Marie Jebsen, German str., for Singapore.
 25, Flandria, German str., for Shanghai.
 25, Hsieh Ho, German str., for Chinkiang.
 25, Pakahan, British str., for Bangkok.
 25, Telemachus, British str., for Singapore.
 25, Strathgyle, British str., for S. Francisco.
 25, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
 25, Amara, British str., for Singapore.
 25, Macduff, British str., for Moji.
 25, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'chinotzu.
 25, Isla de Luzon, U.S. g.-bt., for Canton.
 25, Benvorlich, British str., for Nagasaki.
 25, Macduff, British str., for Moji.
 26, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 26, Olympia, British str., for Tacoma.
 26, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Wosang, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Shinano Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 26, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., for Sydney.
 26, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 26, Amigo, German str., for Swatow.
 26, Loongmoon, German str., Canton.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Calchas*, from Singapore, Messrs. Rundle, Best, Breonne, and Dudley.

Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Mrs. Taylor, and Mr. Thos. A. Leo.

Per *Ceylon*, for Hongkong, from London, Lt. and Mrs. W. Lloyd, Messrs. E. R. Grazebrook, A. J. N. Kyshe and Second-Lt. S. Jones; from Colombo, Mr. W. P. Crighton; from London, for Manila, Miss Osmond; from Marseilles, for Yokohama, Mr. A. A. Thom.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c., Mrs. O'Brien and child, Col. Macdonald, Major Craster, Lieut. Rosa, Mr. and Mrs. Bott, Mrs. Griffin and three children, Mr. Fenwick, Mrs. W. Wallace, Miss J. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Felton Smith, Mr. Courtney, Miss Bennett, Messrs. Stephen, Steele, Drealer, and Mr. and Mrs. Mehta.

Per *Guilford*, from Taku, Lieut. Spence, R.A.

Per *Chiyuen*, from Shanghai, Mr. Campbell.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Lieut. Comdr. H. C. Gearing, Dr. Waggoner, Messrs. H. Polen, J. S. McDuffee, D. Bradford, F. Newman, E. J. Grow, A. Argosio, Rolling, Ruhm, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Castro, Mr. and Mrs. J. Finkelstien, Mrs. T. T. Thornburgh, Mrs. R. M. Thornburgh and child, Mr. and Mrs. Misses Evans, Mrs. G. Longstreet, and Mr. G. Borbush.

Per *Oceanien*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Woolley and four children, Messrs. Jabot and Bertran and daughter; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Bransom, Mr. and Mrs. Dunne, Messrs. H. Pilkington, A. Bewley, Mrs. Lambton, Messrs. Witnuss, E. Burgeyne, Ross Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Frankes, Messrs. Evenburg, E. Tapia, Cothan, R. Lague, Yoma, Gomes and Parr; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mr. Sandell; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mrs. Anshant, Mrs. Vincent and Mr. E. Hamash; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. Adal; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Mrs. Edelmi and Mrs. Palchua; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Pistro; from Shanghai, Messrs. P. d'Estellan, A. Fraser, Miss F. Nicolas, Mrs. Renault and Mrs. Varin.

Per *Indus*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Consul-General Roher, Mr. Marty, Consul and Mrs. Flayelle and two children; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell and Mr. Pillis; from Batavia, Messrs. G. and J. Diodali; from Saigon, Mrs. Blues and Mr. Ferries; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Messrs. Laglaize, Coffiney, Pont, Rieanol, Forest, Bernard, Butler, Coerver, Rolto, Petersen, Frisenette, Yveryensen and Gouch; from Suez, Mr. Settagmann; from Singapore, Mr. Joseph; from Saigon, Messrs. Hermann and Henry; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Mr. Dronold; from Singapore, Mrs. Smith; from Saigon, Mr. Bompard and Mrs. O. Koma; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. Horada;

from Colombo, Mr. Sethna; from Singapore, Mr. Hasan and Mrs. Omese; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Marty and child, Mr. and Mrs. Merechi, Messrs. Hawakita, In-vonne, Joussem and Mestralet.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mrs. W. Stewart Smith, Mrs. Alex. Nelson and infant, Miss Fannie Mauin, Captain Merry, Lieut. Beecher, Messrs. Carl Morecraft, Carl Ditrach, Jacinto Sujeco, Hilario Pabalan, L. J. Lambert, Benito Mestres, Aron Lam, J. S. Beecher, C. Loring, F. E. Harvey, P. Roach, W. P. Hughes, P. M. Newhall, G. M. Robinson, D. Berriosabalgottia, Eduardo Ros, J. Montero, N. G. Uparis de Silva, R. V. Reins, E. H. Bastian and H. C. Gibbon.

Per *Shinano Maru*, from London, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, Messrs. W. Davis, Wilson, E. B. Pye, A. Cousland and G. Yvanovitch, Rev. and Mrs. Ware and five children, Mr. Thomson, Mrs. E. Burgoyne and child, Messrs. P. Sundamme, Thornborrow, White, Donaldson, Mr. and Mrs. Ruchwaldy, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. C. F. Smith and child; for Kobe, Mr. T. Tohara; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Waraka, Mr. and Mrs. Franske, Capt. and Mrs. Wynter.

Per *Kashing*, from Tientsin, Mr. McKirdy and Mr. Ferguson.

Per *Rajaburi*, from Bangkok, Minister-Resident von Saldern and Mr. Trinkaus.

Per *Hatching*, from Coast Ports, Capt. Farrow, Mon. Blanchit and Mrs. Grainger.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Messrs. Nicolai, Selling, Mrs. Tauchner and six children, Miss Williams and Mr. S. Yanagida; for Manila, Mr. B. Akolovitch, Mr. and Mrs. Kimura, Messrs. E. Kishimoto, N. Potts, Mr. and Mrs. Inukai, Miss Watanabe and Mr. Plonsky; for Townsville, Mr. T. Brydone; for Melbourne, Mrs. F. W. Hammond; for Sydney, Mr. F. W. Browne.

Per *Kumsang*, from Calcutta, Messrs. Paul and Palmer.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Capt. J. Hansen and Mr. and Mrs. King.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mrs. M. Enulo, Messrs. C. Loell, W. H. Meadell, J. McKillop, A. Johnston, C. Mamaraldo and children.

Per *City of Peking*, from San Francisco, &c., Comdr. and Mrs. D. D. V. Stuart, Mr. D. D. V. Stuart Jr., Comdr. J. R. Selfridge, Mr. and Mrs. Elias, Mrs. R. Crane, Mrs. Killip, Col. and Mrs. G. H. Higbee, Mr. W. S. Allen, Dr. C. J. Decker, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Goodchild, Messrs. H. McCleer G. W. Gale, O. S. Goff, U.S.N., J. Gurney and F. C. Lyons.

DEPARTED.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Mrs. F. E. Roth, Miss Dollie L. Payne, Messrs. O. K. Olsson, Geo. H. Shute, Isidor I. Spiezal, Richard Shea, L. P. Giesmann, Frank K. Falk, Dr. Kruger, Rev. Frs. Mariano Ruiz, Bernabe Barbero, Bartolome S. Roman, and Ignacio Oras, Mr. J. E. Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Harding, Master Harding, and Mr. Rosario Fremant.

Per *Idzumi Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Bott, Mrs. O'Brien and child, Messrs. W. S. Woods, J. Halter, Miss Luisa Halter, Mrs. M. Richards, Capt. and Mrs. Olsen and infant.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, for London, &c., Comdr. S. Tsuda, Messrs. R. Mulkern, J. R. Fair, Mrs. Pearson and three children, Dr. F. Murayama, Rev. A. E. Webb, Rev. T. Inlai, Mr. S. Kusaka, Mr. and Mrs. Kawakami, Messrs. Murase and Phipps, Sergt.-Major and Mrs. Lowry, Mr. G. P. Gardner, Mrs. E. Jones and two children, Miss Alfermann, Mr. J. Brecker, Mrs. Lyne, and Miss Cartwright.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Japan, Messrs. A. Acton Adams, J. Selles, Wm. Simpson, Miss K. E. Lindsey, Miss M. Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. R. Butchard, Messrs. R. B. Pynsent, T. Fukushima, Mr. and Mrs. A. Abeckett, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Spowers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wallace, Messrs. R. H. Butler, G. W. Dennis, Miss Tomkina, Mr. D. Le Cren, Mrs. E. H. Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. J. Blackturn, Mr. Campbell Damcey, Mrs. Cruise and two sons, Col. L. C. Heismann and three children, Messrs. R. Ajtichi, A. Evangelista, Thomas M. Taylor, John J. Kerk, F. Fernandes, Mrs. A. V. Rodgers and three children, Col. Macquines, Capt. Kischmeyer, Count Lanjos, Mrs. T. Misaka, Miss K. Yokosi, Messrs. M. Ponce, D. Juson,

J. Consunji, J. M. Falcon, L. Gineta, and F. Ponce.

Per *Indus*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. H. Ziegler, F. Williams, Mrs. T. Allemao and child; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Coulson, Mrs. G. Abella, Messrs. B. Roth, A. Adal, M. Haekin and N. Buhing.

Per *Oceanien*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Messrs. W. Hewet, Lawlor, Reupleger, L. Des-salsis, E. Lesterre, O. Gozman, and Rigal; for Singapore, Mr. M. Rivera; for Marseilles, Messrs. H. Lawless, A. Millar, F. M. Tilly, J. Collingwood, J. M. Evans, Revs. Velleneuve, Gandu, Ferrand and Beal.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mr. F. Newman.

Per *America Maru*, for Shanghai, Messrs. H. Miller and G. Nakashima; for Yokohama, Messrs. C. D. Herron and C. A. Burckhardt; for San Francisco, Mrs. W. J. Pardee, Miss Charlotte Pardee, Mrs. Jane Gurley, Mrs. J. R. McKenzie, Miss L. Sandman, Miss A. C. Keyes, Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Hopkins, Masters Hiran G. Hopkins, Hubert R. Hopkins and Herluin G. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Maddock, Mrs. R. W. Handley and E. G. Edwards, Mrs. Chas. A. Adams, Mrs. F. M. Bostwick, Miss R. Riorder, Mrs. W. S. Wallace, Miss J. M. Holmes, Messrs. V. Dreesler and A. T. Steele, Mrs. F. Smyth, Mr. S. D. Bradford, Lieut. Comdr. A. Merty, Messrs. L. B. Lowe, F. Johnson, J. Donohm, John Warren, F. Hinderlet, H. Bordman and J. S. Jacks; for Milwaukee, Mrs. La Grove; for New York, Mr. H. L. Loomus, Mr. and Mrs. Dodge; for London, Messrs. A. J. von Maasdyk, H. Francis, W. Egerton, L. H. Littlefield, and C. W. Porter; for Paris, Mr. Rud Baur.

Per *Empress of India*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Dr. D. Parr, Messrs. R. C. Block, W. Courtenay, A. S. D. Cousland, J. Thornborrow, Wm. White, J. M. Donaldson, O. de L. Williams, John Wilson, W. J. Gresson, W. J. Creighton, Aran Lam, Carl Detrich, Geo. Bass, R. E. Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Burgoyne and child, Rev. and Mrs. Jas. Hare and five children, Mrs. Gordon Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hagen, Miss Fanny Menin, Mrs. Cooper, Hon. and Mrs. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and Mrs. C. A. Gove; for Nagasaki, Mrs. A. Taylor; for Kobe, Mrs. Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Den-nys, Major and Mrs. S. E. Clark and child, Messrs. G. L. Bailey, C. D. Wilkinson, and Capt. Langhorne; for Yokohama, Messrs. C. von Solden, Emil Tainkaus, T. F. Ruhn, J. Blake, Mrs. W. Stewart Smith, Miss Hartigan, Mrs. C. W. Koester, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. B. Sayer, Mr. and Mrs. Clement Palmer, Lieut. C. D. Hitchins, H. A. Lewis, R.A., G. B. Thornhill, R. Peiniger and Capt. Warren, R.A.; for San Francisco, Mrs. A. Nelson and child, Capt. Marry, Lieut. A. M. Beecher, Messrs. Carl Morecraft, J. D. Beecher, C. Loring, F. E. Harvey, P. M. Newhall, J. P. Morton, U.S.N., J. W. Powers, B. Burbash, F. C. Ruby, H. P. Hughes, P. Roach, Mrs. Longstreet, Dr. Wag-gener and Mr. H. C. Gearing; for Winnipeg, Mr. A. Rolling and Mrs. Griffin and three children; for St. Paul, Mr. L. J. Lambert; for Petrolia, Ont., Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Blackwell and child; for Windsor, Ont., Mr. and Mrs. J. Finkelstin; for New York, Messrs. J. S. McDuffy, G. Trynan and H. A. Polen; for Baltimore, Mr. W. Adams; for London, Messrs. J. M. Cann, W. J. Cann, H. Tunstall, M. ore, Leonard Parkinson, T. M. Little, A. Brayer, A. Michie, H. E. V. Crawford, S. Bridge and A. Mackillop, Miss Mackillop, Dr. and Mrs. McClosky, Capt. Lemoine, Lieut.-Col. D. P. Macdonald, Miss M. P. Bennett, Miss Bell, Miss Brodie, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Felton Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Birks, Comdr. C. W. M. Plenderleath, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bromhead Mat-thews and Dr. and Mrs. Parkinson; for Paris, Monsieur Deveson; from Shanghai, for London, Dr. H. R. MacAnlay; from Yokohama, Lady Howard of Glossop, Mrs. and Miss Rankin Wilson, Miss Smees, Miss E. Bellin, Miss Bellin, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Greenwood, H. H. Prince Ibrahim Hassan, Mr. W. Makepeace, Dr. Kirk and Mr. R. H. Butler; for Kingston, Mr. H. H. Horsey.

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